ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

EASTERN

F.O. 371

1948

[redacted]

PALESTINE

FILE No. 1

pp. to 1347

[redacted]

68500

Palestine

EASTERN

E29 /G

E 29 | 1 /319

Situation in Palestine

Sir A Kirkbride
Amman
to Mr Bullows
S/1014
Dated 14 Dec.

Last Paper

—

References

68500

(*Print*)

(*How disposed of*)

(Action completed)	(Index)
DF 9/.	W/H.

Next Paper

(*Minutes*)

H Bailey 5/1

Not to be read.

5.1

We are unwise to stay so long in Palestine

MR Bowlby 7.1

The soldiers showed a complete lack of imagination when they argued that civil administration could be maintained until May 15.

B G Bourdillon Jan 7

H.B. 9/1

34092

CONFIDENTIAL Enclosure E/4

E29

BRITISH LEGATION,
AMMAN.
17th December, 1947.

(S/1014/47)

Dear Burrows,

I enclose a copy of a report made to me by Pirie-Gordon on a recent trip he made to Palestine. Although this is nothing to do with us I feel the forecasts of some of the Palestine Officials on the spot may be of interest to you. As we are "speaking out of turn" in this matter I would be grateful if this note could be treated as strictly confidential as the Colonial Office might reasonably resent a report being made on their preserves.

Yours ever,

Kirkbride

B.A.B. Burrows, Esq.,
The Foreign Office,
LONDON, S.W. 1.

4

His Majesty's Minister.

During my three day visit to Palestine at the end of last week I had an opportunity of talking over the position there with a large number of our former colleagues including members of Executive Council, District Commissioners and Senior Police Officers commanding districts in different parts of the country. I was impressed by the unanimity of their opinion as to the gravity of the security position in Palestine and the conviction that the situation was bound to deteriorate further and rapidly. I was told that Arab opinion had hardened considerably during recent weeks and that in the villages numbers of young men had already left for "training centres" in Syria. There was a fear that the reported desertions among Arab members of different police units and the Frontier Force would become more widespread as time went on, and there was some anxiety that there would be little discouragement to riot and lawlessness once that general public had tumbled to the fact that no prison sentence whatever its length, was likely to last longer than the first of May at the latest. Government was being further disorganised in the towns by the fact that Jewish and Arab officials were refusing to report for duty when their offices happened to be situated in "hostile" quarters of the towns concerned.

One very senior British Official of nearly thirty years political and administration experience in the country expressed to me privately the view that disintegration had already set in and that in his opinion the maintenance of law and order would be shortly rendered difficult, if not impossible, by the extreme reluctance of the British members of the police force to take any drastic action against the Arabs. Few people seemed to believe that it would be possible to hold the position until the beginning of May without receiving casualties which it was felt would be quite unnecessary, and all appeared convinced that it was most undesirable that we should attempt to do so. The general atmosphere was one of gloom and a belief that the serious clashes between the British and the Arabs might shortly become unavoidable.

E

1948

PALESTINE

E 105

2 JAN

Registry Number E105/1/31

FROM

Henry

No. Washington

Dated 15/31/47

Received in Registry 22 Dec 2 Jan

Resolutions on Palestine.

Various identical resolutions on Palestine submitted to the House by Congressmen Sevens and Hope Scott.

Last Paper.

29

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, B.U. Van 8

(Minutes.)

I wonder what the Jewish Agency think of that.

N.A. Dept
begin G.O. 9/1

HB. 2/1

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

Next Paper.

E 143

29470 F.O.P.

6

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

22nd December 1947

E 105
2 JAN

Ref: 15/381/47

Dear Department,

We enclose herein identical resolutions on Palestine submitted to the House of Representatives by Congressmen Somers (D.,New York) and Hugh Scott (R.,Pennsylvania). As you will remember, Congressman Somers is an officer of the American League for a Free Palestine.

We are sending copies of this letter to Jerusalem and to the U.K. Delegation to the United Nations at New York.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY

Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

7

80TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 408

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 18, 1947

Mr. HUGH D. SCOTT, JR., submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Whereas the Congress of the United States (in Public Resolution 73, Sixty-seventh Congress, second session and S. Con. Res. 44, Seventy-ninth Congress) has favored assistance for the rebuilding of Palestine under the terms of the League of Nations Mandate; and

Whereas the United Nations have formally adopted a resolution which recognizes the rights of the Hebrew people to sovereignty in Palestine and have called upon the British Government to evacuate a seaport in an appropriate area of Palestine not later than February 1, 1948, in order to facilitate the free entry of Hebrews into Palestine; and

Whereas some two hundred and fifty thousand Hebrews now find themselves in the allied zones of occupation in Germany, Austria, and Italy living under deplorable conditions, and considerations of humanity and justice dictate that these

62

survivors of Nazi brutality, who lost six million of their kin, should be assisted to resume a new and dignified life; and

Whereas immediately after VE-day the United States Army repatriated seven million European displaced persons to their countries of origin; and

Whereas the United Nations decision on Palestine now makes it possible to repatriate all the Hebrew displaced persons to that country; and

Whereas the President of the United States, on October 4, 1946, publicly announced that preparations for this movement have already been made by the United States Government and that the Government is ready to lend its immediate assistance for the purpose of transporting displaced persons to Palestine; and

Whereas the speedy evacuation from Europe of the Hebrew displaced persons would have a beneficial effect on the stabilization of Europe which the United States now seeks to achieve; and

Whereas the maintaining of these displaced persons in the camps constitutes continuing expenses to the occupation authorities, which expenses are greater than the single cost of their repatriation to Palestine: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that the President (1) should direct the appropriate agencies of the Government to take action to remove from the American zones of occupation in Europe all Hebrew displaced persons and to assist in their repatriation by transporting them to Palestine prior to October 1, 1948, in

64

8

order that camps and settlements for Hebrew displaced persons in the American zones of occupation may be closed by such date; (2) should direct the proper authorities in the American zones of occupation to undertake immediately the program of repatriation of such Hebrew displaced persons in order to reduce the heavy financial burden on the United States occasioned by the maintenance of such camps; and (3) should authorize the employment of such facilities of the United States (including vessels and land transport facilities) as may be necessary to accomplish such repatriation as expeditiously as possible.

80TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 408

RESOLUTION

To express the sense of the House that the United States should repatriate Hebrew displaced persons in the American zones of occupation by providing for their transportation to Palestine.

By Mr. HUGH D. SCOTT, Jr.

DECEMBER 18, 1947
Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

9

80TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 409

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 18, 1947

Mr. SOMERS submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Whereas the Congress of the United States (in Public Resolution 73, Sixty-seventh Congress, second session, and S. Con. Res. 44, Seventy-ninth Congress) has favored assistance for the rebuilding of Palestine under the terms of the League of Nations Mandate; and

Whereas the United Nations have formally adopted a resolution which recognizes the rights of the Hebrew people to sovereignty in Palestine and have called upon the British Government to evacuate a seaport in an appropriate area of Palestine not later than February 1, 1948, in order to facilitate the free entry of Hebrews into Palestine; and

Whereas some two hundred and fifty thousand Hebrews now find themselves in the allied zones of occupation in Germany, Austria, and Italy living under deplorable conditions, and considerations of humanity and justice dictate that these

survivors of Nazi brutality, who lost six million of their kin, should be assisted to resume a new and dignified life; and

Whereas immediately after VE-day the United States Army repatriated seven million European displaced persons to their countries of origin; and

Whereas the United Nations decision on Palestine now makes it possible to repatriate all the Hebrew displaced persons to that country; and

Whereas the President of the United States, on October 4, 1946, publicly announced that preparations for this movement have already been made by the United States Government and that the Government is ready to lend its immediate assistance for the purpose of transporting displaced persons to Palestine; and

Whereas the speedy evacuation from Europe of the Hebrew displaced persons would have a beneficial effect on the stabilization of Europe which the United States now seeks to achieve; and

Whereas the maintaining of these displaced persons in the camps constitutes continuing expenses to the occupation authorities, which expenses are greater than the single cost of their repatriation to Palestine: Now therefore be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that the President (1) should direct the appropriate agencies of the Government to take action to remove from the American zones of occupation in Europe all Hebrew displaced persons and to assist in their repatriation by trans-

66

porting them to Palestine prior to October 1, 1948, in order that camps and settlements for Hebrew displaced persons in the American zones of occupation may be closed by such dates; (2) should direct the proper authorities in the American zones of occupation to undertake immediately the program of repatriation of such Hebrew displaced persons in order to reduce the heavy financial burden on the United States occasioned by the maintenance of such camps; and (3) should authorize the employment of such facilities of the United States (including vessels and land transport facilities) as may be necessary to accomplish such repatriation as expeditiously as possible.

80TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 409

RESOLUTION

To express the sense of the House that the United States should repatriate Hebrew displaced persons in the American zones of occupation by providing for their transportation to Palestine.

By Mr. SOMERS

DECEMBER 18, 1947
Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

16

1948

E

PALESTINE

E 382 11

9 JAN

Registry Number E 382/1/31.

FROM

W. W. Clark.

No. C.O.

Dated 75156/151/1/47

Received in Registry } to Mr Rock 5 Jan

9 –

Death of Señor Don Manuel Allen de Salazar y Travesedo.

Transmits copy of Palest tel No 25 of Jan 5 reporting the death of the acting Consul General of Spain in the Semiramis Hotel Outrage.

Asks that condolences be conveyed to Spanish Govt.

Last Paper.

E 381

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Dft. Spanish Embassy from Mr Symon 7. Jan

(Minutes.)

Spanish Embassy informed of Jerusalem tel. No. 48 (attached)

~~Western Dept.~~ 13/1 JB Jan 13

In P.P. C.O. tel 80 8/1

- Palest tel 48 9/1

JB Jan 14

In P.P. Spanish Embassy to Mr Burrows 9/1

JB Jan 16

(Action completed.) 16/1

(Index.) 9/1/48

Next Paper.

(E 1059)

E 419

26513 F.O.P.

COLONIAL OFFICE

My Reference 75156/351A/47.

Your Reference

The Church House,
Great Smith Street,
S.W.1.

5th January, 1948.

E 382

9 JAN

Dear Beith,

I spoke to you on the telephone about telegram No. 25 from High Commissioner, Palestine, of 5th January, reporting that the Acting Consul General of Spain in Jerusalem was killed in the Semiramis Hotel last night.

We should be grateful if you would, provided you see no objection, take action in accordance with the final sentence of the High Commissioner's telegram. I have spoken to Watson, the Private Secretary, who has also asked that the condolances of the Secretary of State for the Colonies may be conveyed to the Spanish Government.

Yours sincerely,

W.W. Clark

(W.W. Clark)

J.G.S. Beith, Esq.

E

12

13

INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Sn Clair

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 5th January, 1948.
R. 5th " " 14.25 hrs.

IMMEDIATE
No. 25

It is now learned that the acting Consul-General of Spain in Jerusalem, Senor Don Manuel Allen de Salazar Y Travesdo, was in the Semiramis Hotel, Jerusalem, at the time of its destruction last night and was killed. I shall be grateful if in informing Spanish Government you will, if you see no objection, convey to it expressions of my condolence and deep regret for the death of this officer and of the horror and condemnation with which I regard the dastardly crime which caused it.

Copies sent to:-

Foreign Office
" "
Cabinet Offices
" "
" "
Ministry of Defence
Treasury
"
Admiralty
"
"
"
War Office
" "
" "(M.O.4)
Ministry of Transport
" " "
Air Ministry
" "
Foreign Office
" "
" "
M.I.5
No. 10 Downing Street
Lord Privy Seal
Admiralty
"
War Office
" "
Air Ministry
" "
Cabinet Offices
Foreign Office
Ministry of Defence
" " "
Commonwealth Relations Office
Ministry of Transport
Foreign Office (Research Dept.)

- P.S. to Sir Oliver Sargent.
- P.S. to Foreign Secretary.
- Mr. S.E.V. Luke.
- Brig. Cornwall-Jones.
- Cdr. W. Evershed, R.N.
- Mr. A.J. Nowling.
- Mr. D.F.C. Blunt.
- Mr. W. Russell-Edmunds.
- Mr. P.N.H.Synott.
- Capt. Mannsell.
- Capt. D.H. Hall-Thompson
- Mr. G.C.B. Dodds.
- Brig. J.R.C. Hamilton
- L.L. Wansbrough-Jones.
- Lt. Col. M.K. Chartoris.
- Mr. B.F. Pinknett.
- Mr. F.C. Ferride.
- Air Commodore Brook.
- Grp. Capt. V.H.B. Reed
- Mr. B.A.C. Burrows.
- Mr. H. Bailey.
- Mr. J.O.S. Beith.
- Mr. J.C. Robertson.
- P.S. to Prime Minister
- Private Secretary.
- Private Secretary.
- First Sea Lord.
- Private Secretary.
- C.I.C.S.
- Private Secretary.
- C.A.S.
- Sir N. Brook.
- Private Secretary.
- Private Secretary.
- Sir H. Wilson Smith.
- Private Secretary.
- Private Secretary.
- Air Commodore J.C. [illegible]

14

INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

En Clair

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 5th January, 1948.
R. 5th " " [illegible] a.m.

IMMEDIATE
No. 20

Addressed to S. of S.
Repeated Washington.
" B.M.E.O. (Please pass to Commander and C.-in-C.)
" Beirut
" Damascus
" Amman
" Jedda
" Aden
" British Consul Aleppo
"

Special Incident Report.

1. At 12.40 hours 4th January, Social Welfare offices were completely demolished and old Government's building in Jaffa, which houses offices of Arab National Committee, was partly demolished by an explosion in which 15 persons were killed, 20 seriously and 58 slightly injured. Practically all Arabs' buildings nearby, including General Police Station and Barclay's Bank, were extensively damaged. I.Z.L. later claimed responsibility.

2. At 01.17 hours, 5th January, a grenade was thrown into Semiramis Hotel, Jerusalem, causing slight damage. No casualties. Immediately afterwards an explosion occurred which completely demolished front half of building. One Arab was later found dead in vicinity. [illegible] persons are missing and 2 persons were injured. Among missing is Senor Manuel Allende Salazar, acting Spanish Consul.

Copies sent to/

Copies sent to:-

Foreign Office	- P.S. to Sir Orme Sargent.
" "	- P.S. to Foreign Secretary.
Cabinet Offices	- Mr. S.E.V. Luke.
" "	- Brig. Cornwall-Jones.
" "	- Cdr. W. Evershed, R.N.
Ministry of Defence	- Mr. A.J. Gaulton.
Treasury	- Mr. D.F.C. Blunt.
"	- Mr. V. Russell-Edmunds.
Admiralty	- Mr. P.N.M. Eyers.
"	- Capt. Macneill.
"	- Capt. D.W. Hall-Thompson.
"	- Mr. C.C.E. Dodds.
War Office	- Brig. F.K.G. Hamilton.
"	- L.J. Wainwright-Jones.
" (M.O.4)	- Lt. Col. J.W. Chesterton.
Ministry of Transport	- Mr. B.T. Pickwell.
" "	- Mr. D.C. Perrin.
Air Ministry	- Air Commodore Brook.
"	- Grp. Capt. F.M.B. Bell.
Prime Minister's Office	- Mr. B.A.H. Burrows.
" "	- Mr. E. Beeley.
" "	- Mr. J.G.S. Smith.
" "	- Mr. J.C. Robertson.
Rt. Hon. Viscount Cilcennin	- P.S. to Prime Minister.
Lord Swinton	- Private Secretary.
Admiralty	- Private Secretary.
"	- First Sea Lord.
War Office	- Private Secretary.
"	- C.I.G.S.
Air Ministry	- Private Secretary.
"	- C.A.S.
Cabinet Offices	- Sir N. Brook.
Foreign Office	- Private Secretary.
Ministry of Defence	- Private Secretary.
" "	- Sir R. Wilson Smith.
Commonwealth Relations Office	- Private Secretary.
Ministry of Transport	- Private Secretary.
Foreign Office (Resident Min.)	- Air Commodore J.C. Russ.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry No. T FIL

JGSB

Draft.

~~Top Secret.~~
~~Secret.~~
~~Confidential~~
~~Restricted.~~
Open.

The Spanish Chargé d'Affaire.

From:

Mr. Burrows

Copy Madrid

Treaty Dept.
Western Department
Private Secy.

Dist

N.S. Print
Stamp

IMMEDIATE FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

7th January 1948. 15

I have to confirm to you the sad news of the death of the Acting Consul-General of Spain in Jerusalem, as a result of the destruction of the Semiramis Hotel on the night of January 4th, which has already been conveyed to your Embassy by telephone.

The High Commissioner of Palestine has asked that an expression of his condolence and deep regret for the death of this officer should be conveyed to the Spanish Government. At the same time I am instructed to convey to you for transmission to the Spanish Government on behalf of the Foreign Secretary, the Colonial Secretary and other members of His Majesty's Government an expression of their sorrow that th tragic loss of life arising from this wanton act of terrorism should have included this Spanish Consular Officer in the exercise of his duties

HP 7/1

OUT FILE E.K.E. 16

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W. 1.,

7th January, 1948.

IMMEDIATE

I have to confirm to you the sad news of the death of the Acting Consul-General of Spain in Jerusalem, as a result of the destruction of the Semiramis Hotel on the night of January 4th, which has already been conveyed to your Embassy by telephone.

The High Commissioner of Palestine has asked that an expression of his condolence and deep regret for the death of this officer should be conveyed to the Spanish Government. At the same time, I am instructed to convey to you, for transmission to the Spanish Government on behalf of the Foreign Secretary, the Colonial Secretary and other members of His Majesty's Government, an expression of their sorrow that the tragic loss of life arising from this wanton act of terrorism should have included this Spanish Consular Officer in the exercise of his duties.

A.T.L. Pyman
~~(B.A.B. Burrows)~~

El Marqués de Santa Cruz,
Spanish Embassy.

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OUTWARD TELEGRAM

75156/151A/47 382 / 71

En Clair

TO PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)
FROM S. OF S., COLONIES.

Sent 8th January, 1948. 15.30 hrs.

IMPORTANT

No. 80.

Your telegram No. 25.

Spanish Government have enquired whether body of Acting Consul General has been found.

Please telegraph reply.

Copy sent to:-

Foreign Office - Mr. J.E.S. Baith.

INWARD TELEGRAM 18

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

En Clair

382 / 71

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 9th January, 1948
R. 9th " " 13.50 hrs.

IMPORTANT

No. 48.

Your telegram No. 80.

Acting Consul General of Spain.

Body has been found and identified and funeral is taking place this morning.

Copy sent to:-

Foreign Office - Mr.J.E.S. Beith.

EMBAJADA DE ESPAÑA
EN LONDRES

London, 9th January, 1947.

Dear Burrows

I have to request you to convey to the High Commissioner of Palestine the sincere appreciation of my Government for his expressions of condolence on the occasion of the death of the acting Consul-General, as a result of the destruction of the Semiramis Hotel on the night of January 4th. I must also ask you to convey the same sentiments to the Foreign Secretary, the Colonial Secretary and other members of His Majesty's Government who expressed their sorrow at this tragic loss of life.

Yours sincerely

Juan de las Bárcenas

Juan de las Bárcenas,
CHARGE D'AFFAIRES a.i.

B. A. B. Burrows, Esq.,
Foreign Office,
S.W. 1.

18

E

1948

PALESTINE

E 442 20
10 JAN

Registry Number	E442/1/31.
FROM	Trafford Smith C.O.
No.	
Dated	to Mr Burrows.
Received in Registry	7 Jan 10 -

Arming of Arab Villages
Our F.O. letter (E12279/951/31) [illegible] Trafford Smith C.O. views on question raised by Mr Jamali that arms should be issued to Arab village guards.

Last Paper.

419

References.

(Minutes.)

HB 17/1

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
19/1	19/1/48

Next Paper.

490

26513 F.O.P.

COLONIAL OFFICE

SECRET

The Church House,
Gt. Smith Street,
London, S.W. 1.

January 7, 1948.

My Reference

Your Reference

E 21
E 442/1/31

E 442

10 JAN

Dear Burrows

May I refer to your secret letter of December 23 following your conversation with the Iraq Minister for Foreign Affairs about Palestine? I gather Mathieson has already given you our general views on the question raised by Dr. Jamali that arms should be issued to Arab village guards, following the system adopted for the Jewish Settlement Police. The Palestine Government have, of course, always taken the view that the fewer arms issued to either side in Palestine, the better, though recently events have forced the authorities to allow Jews and Arabs to retain personal arms carried in self-defence.

As you are however aware, it is now becoming necessary to withdraw British Police from certain areas, not only as a preparation for the general British withdrawal from Palestine, but also in order that British Security Forces may be strengthened in crucial areas. In accordance with this policy, an Arab Municipal Police Force is being set up for Jaffa, armed by the Government, and you will no doubt have seen the High Commissioner's telegram No. 17 of January 3, reporting that British Police are now being withdrawn from the Hebron and Nablus sub-districts, leaving Arab Police under British command in these areas. These Police will, of course, similarly be armed by the Government. The second paragraph of the same telegram reports that the formation of Municipal Police Forces in the Arab towns and villages in these areas is proceeding parallel with the

/withdrawal

B.A.H. BURROWS, ESQ.

withdrawal of British Police.

This is an indication of the general policy being pursued and may give you some grounds for re-assuring Dr. Jamali. The over-riding principle is, of course, that law and order shall be maintained, and there can be no question of indiscriminate handing out of arms to Arabs, especially in mixed Arab-Jewish districts where it seems extremely unlikely that their use would be confined to proper purposes.

Yours sincerely,
Trafford Smith

(Trafford Smith)

19

E

1948

PALESTINE

E 490 | 22
12 JAN

Registry Number E490/1/31.

TELEGRAM FROM Mr Trott

No.

Jidda

Dated

Received in Registry 2 Saving
6 Jan
12 "

Saudi Arabian Consular Guard in Jerusalem

King Ibn Saud has sent message saying that as his Consul at Jerusalem informs him that the Palestine Govt. have stated they can no longer be responsible for his protection, H.M. King hopes permission will be granted allowing him to send a force of ten Saudi soldiers to protect the Consulate. He would propose to send them by special plane via Lydda.

Addressed Jerusalem ....

Last Paper.

442

References.

(Minutes.)

Usual ~~Please~~
Palestine circulation.

Reuters report from Jerusalem that this request has been granted, and that the Palestine Administration have decided to allow all Consulates to establish guards. C.O. have no confirmation.

Jerusalem telegram no 77 (E583, see marked passage) informs us that the Americans have suggested the rather startling figure of 110 marines.

I expressed to Mr. Lewis Jones yesterday the personal view that, while the sending of a Consular guard was a perfectly reasonable precaution, it was to be hoped the State Department had considered the possible consequences and ~~were~~ defined the limits of action into which they would allow themselves to be drawn as a result of this measure.

H Beeley 15/1

L.C. Pyman 15/1

H

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, Matheson C.O
1 Everted Cab Off
M.I.3a
MO4
Admty
AM, on E 794
Jan 19th

(Action completed.) G.L.W. 19/1

(Index.) 9/1/48

Next Paper.

492

30471 F.O.P

It is extraordinary that Jerusalem should have made this announcement without even telling us.

We are discussing on other papers the possible provision of a guard for the British representative in Palestine after the termination of the Mandate. From this point of view it will be a good thing for other guards to be established now, as ours will be less conspicuous. But I fear trouble between Arab guards & the Haganah.

B.A.B. Burrows
16.1

16.1

To P.P. Palestine tel 11 Saving, addressed Jedda No 7
8/1

H3.21/1

E 490 23

DEPARTMENTAL
12 JAN

Cypher/OT

FROM JEDDA TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Trott,
No.2 Saving
6th January, 1948. R: 11th January, 1948.

Addressed to Jerusalem telegram No.1 of 6th January. Repeated Saving to Foreign Office [En Clair By Confidential Bag] No.2., Cairo No.2 Bagdad No.2, Beirut No.2, Damascus No.2, Amman No.2.

Your telegram no.1 to Secretary of State.

King Ibn Saud has sent a message saying that as his Consul at **Jerusalem** informs him that the Palestine Government have told him that they can no longer be responsible for his protection. The King hopes that you will allow him to send a force of ten Saudi soldiers to protect the Consul. He would propose to send them by special plane via Lydda. His Majesty would be glad of any early reply.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat]

A A A A

H. Beeley, Esq
Foreign Office.

+90 / 21

1W 26

75872/159/10/48

Mr W.A.C. Matheson

20th January 1948.

Reference your telephone conversation with Mr Matheson on 19th January 1948.

From The High Commissioner
for Palestine.

O 10. I.T.

25

8.1.48. at 1800 hrs.

No. 7. Repeated to Secretary of State having No. 11.
Baghdad
Beirut
Damascus
Cairo
having No. 22.

Your telegram No. 1.

We repeat no objection to despatch of ten Saudi soldiers as consular guard for Saudi consulate in Jerusalem. Consular corps has been informed generally that there is no repeat no objection to consulates obtaining guards from their own countries.

20

1948

E

PALESTINE

E 492
13 JAN

26

Registry Number E492/1/31

FROM The Arab Office

No.

Dated 9 Jan

Received in Registry 13 -

U S Marine guard in Jerusalem

If rumours are true that H.M.G. has agreed that American marines be landed in Palestine to protect American Institutions, the Arabs will take the gravest possible objection to H.M.G's action, which would be a very serious breach of the undertaking that until she renounced the Mandate she would exercise undivided responsibility in Palestine

Last Paper.

348/1/31.
490

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

H.13 151

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
19/1	9/1/48

Next Paper.

495

26513 F.O.P.

E 492
13 JAN

9.1.48.

27

1. There are strong rumours that the British Government has agreed that American marines be landed in Palestine to protect American institutions.

2. If these rumours are true, the Arabs will take the gravest possible objection to what Great Britain has done. The concurrence of Britain in any such move, would in the first place be a very serious breach of her undertaking that until she renounced the Mandate she would exercise undivided responsibility in Palestine, refused to share the authority with anyone else and maintained the status quo. By agreeing to American military personnel in any numbers or for any purpose to come to Palestine at this stage, Britain would be admitting a principle of dangerous and incalculable consequences. Once this principle is admitted the door will be open to foreign military intervention in the Palestine situation, and Britain would have been instrumental in allowing this intervention to begin under her protection and while she was still responsible for the Government of Palestine. She will thus, before withdrawing, have let in those who are the declared supporters of the Zionist cause and opponents of the Arab. Her last action in the Palestine tragedy will be as inimical and hateful to the Arabs as her first, and no claim she may make after this that she is withdrawing in an impartial manner will have any substance in Arab eyes.

3. The arrival of American military personnel in Palestine no matter in what guise or how few will not intimidate the Arabs. On the contrary, they will see in it a reckless provocative challenge to which they will react with increased anger and determination.

4. It is futile for America to think that she can protect her widespread interests in the whole of the Arab world by sending some military personnel to Palestine.

The Arab Office.
London.

9.1.48.

22

E

PALESTINE

E 497

13 JAN

28

1948

Registry Number E497/1/31

FROM E Simmons

No. Peterborough

Dated Training College

Received in Registry 10 JAN 13 —

Partition of Palestine.

Re undertaking a project - Geography and the Partition of Palestine. Asks to be supplied with information in hand.

Last Paper.

495

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Off. E. Simmons
Peterboro'
from M Keith
Jan 22.

Off. J. Brigham. CO
(encs)
Jan 22.

Jan

(Action completed.) 23/1

(Index.)

Next Paper.

502

(Minutes.)

Library Could you help?

H.S. Beeley
Jan 13

I am unable to trace anything useful for the period 1914-1922.

A certain amount of information, covering later years, will be found in the current edition of the Statesman's Year Book, a book which should be available in any good reference Library.

Detailed reports of the Palestine censuses of 1922 & 1931 were issued by the Palestine Govt. and copies could, no doubt, be purchased through the C.O. A summary of the 1931 census is contained in the "Annual Report to the League of Nations on the Administration of Palestine & Transjordan" for that year. This Report (Colonial No. 75, Price 8/0) could be purchased direct from

from the S.O. or from that Dept. through any Bookseller.

The most useful work, however, is "A Survey of Palestine, Prepared in Dec. 1945 + Jan. 1946 for the information of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry". Vol. I. (Printed by the Govt. Printer, Palestine). This book, which contains a detailed analysis of Palestine population figures for the period 1922-1944, could possibly be obtained through the B.O.

In all, then, I would suggest that we should send this letter, in original, to the B.O. (keeping a copy), give them the result of our searches, and ask that they should reply direct to the writer.

C.H. FONE,
16/1

I think we might send an interim reply JB Jan 21

In P.P. W.Q. Mackenzie 80. 76854/48 to P. Hammond 31/1

JB Feb 3

E

Peterborough Training College,
River Lane Hostel 29
Peterborough.

10. 1. 48.

The Under Secretary for State
Foreign Affairs.

Dear Sir,

I am undertaking a project in Geography on the Partition of Palestine and earnestly desire to present the true facts. With this in mind, I would be very grateful if you could supply me with the following information, or any other sources from which I can obtain it.

1. The distribution of the Arab & Jewish population in Palestine in 1917
2. The distribution in or around 1946.

9

3. Then annual population census from 1917 to 1947. (Arab & Jew)

If, amongst all your worries and difficulties, you can find time to supply the information, I will be extremely grateful

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
E. Sammons.

10

Registry
No. E 497/1/31.

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

Draft. to:

Mr. E. SAMMONS,
Peterborough
Training College,
River Lane Hostel,
PETERBOROUGH.

from: J.G.S.Beith.

Copy to:
J. Higham, C.O.

22nd Jan. 30

Sir,

I am directed etc. to acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 10th asking for certain information in connection with a project in Geography on the partition of Palestine. Your letter is being forwarded to the Colonial Office with a request that their department should furnish you with any information in their possession. Meanwhile a certain amount of information covering recent years will be found in the current adition of the "Stateman's Year Book", which should be available in any good reference library.

Detailed reports on the Palestine census of 1922 and 1931 were issued by the Palestine Government and copies can no doubt be purchased from Colonial Office. A summary of the 1931 census is contained in the "Annual Report to the League of Nations on the Administration of Palestine and Transjordan" for that year. This report (Colonial No. 75, price 8/-) can be purchased direct from the Stationery Office or through any bookseller. Probably the most useful work on the subject is "A Survey of Palestine prepared in December, 1945 and January, 1946 for the information of the Anglo-American Committee of Enquiry" Volume I (printed by the Government Printer, Palestine). This book, which contains a detailed analysis of Palestine population figures for the period 1922 to 1944 could

/ possible

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(33654) Wt.14696/147 75,000 6/47 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

possibly be obtained from the Colonial Office.

J.G.S. BEITH,
21st January, 1948.

31

E 497/1/31

Foreign Office,

...1.

2nd January, 1948.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Attlee to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 10th January asking for certain information in connexion with a project in Geography on the partition of Palestine. Your letter is being forwarded to the Colonial Office with a request that that department should furnish you with any information in their possession. Meanwhile a certain amount of information covering recent years will be found in the current edition of the "Statesmans Year Book", which should be available in any good reference library.

2. Detailed reports on the Palestine census of 1922 and 1931 were issued by the Palestine Government and copies can no doubt be purchased from Colonial Office. A summary of the 1931 census is contained in the "Annual Report to the League of Nations on the Administration of Palestine and Transjordan" for that year. This report (Colonial No. 75, price 8/-) can be purchased direct from the Stationery Office or through any bookseller. Probably the most useful work on the subject is "A Survey of Palestine prepared in December, 1945 and January, 1946 for the information of the Anglo-American Committee of Enquiry" Volume I (printed by the Government Printer, Palestine). This book, which contains a detailed analysis of Palestine population figures for the period 1922 to 1944 could possibly be obtained from the Colonial Office.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

pp John Burk

E. Summons Esq.,
Peterborough Training College,
River Lane Hostel,
Peterborough.

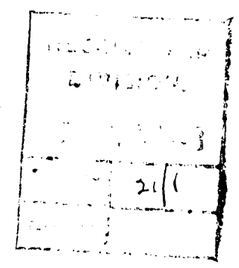
Registry
No. E 497/1/31.

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

Draft. to:

Mr. J. Higham,
Colonial Office.

from: J.G.S. Beith.



22nd Jan. 32

My dear John,

I enclose a copy of a letter we have received from a researcher at Peterborough Training College and of the interim reply which we have sent him, giving some idea of suitable sources for population figures for Palestine.

Will you kindly furnish the writer with any documents or further advice which you may be able to.

J.B. Stan 4

J.G.S. BEITH,
21st January, 1948.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(33654) Wt.14696/147 75,000 6/47 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

22nd January, 1948.

33

497/1/51)

My dear John,

I enclose a copy of a letter we have received from a researcher at Peterborough Training College and of the interim reply which we have sent him, giving some idea of suitable sources for population figures for Palestine.

Will you kindly furnish the writer with any documents or further advice which you may be able to.

Yours Ever
John Beith

(J.G.S. Beith)

J.D. Higham Esq.,
Colonial Office.

Colonial Office,
The Church House,
Great Smith Street,
S.W.1.

34

INDEXED

E 497/1/31

76354/48.

31st January, 1948.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Creech Jones to refer to your letter of the 15th January to the Foreign Office, a copy of which was passed to this Department.

2. If copies of the reports on the Palestine census of 1922 and 1931 and of "A Survey of Palestine Volume I are still available, they can be purchased from The Publications Department,
The Crown Agents for the Colonies,
4, Millbank
S.W.1.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

Sgd/ W.G.C. Matheson

Colonial Office Reference No. 76354/48

With the compliments of the U.S. of S.
Colonial Office

Date 31 JAN 1948

Your Reference E 497/1/31 of 22/1/48

24

35

1948

E

PALESTINE

E 609

15 JAN

Registry Number E 609/1/31

FROM Mrs. C.H. Fry.

No. Lee Moor

Dated Plymouth

Received in Registry 5 Jan

15 –

H.M. Forces in Palestine

Appeals on behalf of her son now serving in Palestine, that something may be done to speed up withdrawal of British troops from Palestine.

Last Paper.

E 502

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

Dft. Mrs. C H Fry
from Pri/Sec
✓Jan. 17

(*Minutes.*)

HB 17/1

(Action completed.) GEM 19/1

(Index.) 1/48

Next Paper.

E 616

26513 F.O.P.

1 [illegible] 6.1.48.
2. [illegible] for draft
E 609
15 JAN
36

2 St Aubyn Terrace
Lee Moor.
Nr Plymouth
5-1-48.

6/1

Mr Bevan

Dear Sir.

Please pardon me for writing to you as I know its taking up your valuable time. but I feel I must make an urgent appeal. for a young lad of mine that is in Palestine. He is not yet 19 yrs. & has been sent over there. I am quite distracted. cannot sleep. & being in a poor state of health. its much worse for me. Dont you think its shame on our Country to send such young boys over there. My boy did not object to going overseas. but to be send where there is so much trouble. its too young. Mine are all boys. The elder one has served. & now I have one away & another will shortly have to go.

I feel I cannot stand up to it
Not only my boy, but there are
others over there still in their teens
I do pray that something may be
~~soon~~ done for them. Why should the
flower of our country be sacrificed
my husband & I are both Labour
but we cannot fall in line with
this kind of thing. Many mothers
are signing Petitions. but I thought
I would make just an heartfelt
appeal to you Sir.
May God help you to do
something. & also Strengthen
us mothers who have
endured quite a lot.
Yrs Sincerely
Mrs. C. H. Frey

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry No.

J. G. S. B.

Draft.

~~Top Secret.~~
~~Secret.~~
~~Confidential.~~
~~Restricted.~~
Open.

Mrs C.H. Fry.,
12 St Aubyn Terrace,
Lee Moor,
Nr. Plymouth.

(from Private Secretary)

CMCA 10/1.
Private Sec.
Just
O.L.S. Bevin
Jan 10

WO Concur

+ OLC

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.
17 January 1948.

E 15/1/4

37

Dear Mrs Fry,

Mr. Bevin has asked me to thank you for your letter of January 15th expressing the anxiety you feel for your young son who is serving with H.M. Forces in Palestine.

Mr. Bevin sincerely sympathises with you in your anxiety and trusts that it will not be long before your son leaves Palestine in the course of the British withdrawal. The main object of the Government's present policy in regard to Palestine is to withdraw the British troops and Administration as rapidly as possible and you will probably have seen official statements to the effect that it is planned to withdraw all troops by August 1st. This is the date for the completion of withdrawal and it may well be that your son will leave Palestine some time before that date.

Hbtan 13

(Sgd.) R. J. C. McAlpine.

D

38

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

17th January 1948.

(E 609/1/31)

Dear Mrs Fry,

Mr. Bevin has asked me to thank you for your letter of January 5th expressing the anxiety you feel for your young son who is serving with His Majesty's Forces in Palestine.

Mr. Bevin sincerely sympathises with you in your anxiety and trusts that it will not be long before your son leaves Palestine in the course of the British withdrawal. The main object of the Government's present policy in regard to Palestine is to withdraw the British troops and Administration as rapidly as possible and you will probably have seen official statements to the effect that it is planned to withdraw all troops by August 1st. This is the date for the completion of withdrawal and it may well be that your son will leave Palestine some time before that date.

Yours sincerely

(Sgd.) R.D.C. McAlpine.

Private Secretary

Mrs. C. H. Fry,
12, St. Aubyn Terrace,
Lee Moor,
Near Plymouth.

25

E

1948	PALESTINE	E 616 15 JAN

39

Registry Number E616/1/31
FROM Chancery
No. Moscow
Dated 107/3/48
Received in Registry 8 Jan
15 ~

Palestine Problem, Moscow Lecture

Refers Moscow tel 44 (E393/393/65) Encloses resumé of a lecture on the Palestinian Problem delivered in Moscow Jan 5.
Comments on same.

Last Paper.

609

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.) 23/1

(Index.) 9/1/48

Next Paper.

617

(Minutes.)

Northern Dept. ✓

Why is it surprising that the Stern Gang is considered Fascist? I always understood they were at daggers drawn with the Palestine Communists. The second Answer is also revealing: we know how the Russians impute to others the motives that guide their own actions! H.B. 16/1

R.A.E. 19/1

All our recent information has indicated that the Stern gang are now in touch with the PKP, and their propaganda has also taken on a pro-Russian colour.

Northern Dept. 21/1 Thank you

H.B. 20/1

Moscow Chancery might have told us who gave this lecture!

D.B.

26513 F.O.P.

40

BRITISH EMBASSY,
MOSCOW.

8th January, 1948.

107/3/48

Dear Department,

With reference to our telegram No.44 of today's date summarising an important Trud article on the Palestinian question, we enclose a resumé of a lecture on the Palestinian problem delivered in Moscow on January 5th, which was attended by a member of our Russian Secretariat.

It strikes us as noteworthy for its references to the Stern gang and Irgun Zvai Leumi as fascist organisations, and to the Zionists as reactionary and bourgeois, and also for the explicit admission that the apparent agreement of the Soviet Union and the United States of America on the Palestinian issue was purely coincidental.

Political lectures in Moscow are usually extremely dull affairs, the audience sitting in a state of apathetic stupor and betraying few signs of lively interest. It is, therefore, an achievement for this lecture to have drawn these unmistakable signs of interest and indeed dissatisfaction, indicating that the Jewish colony in Moscow is eager for more information on Palestine than is provided by a mere repetition of daily

propaganda/

Eastern Department,
Foreign Office.

propaganda. The first question shows that at least one Jew was not so sure of the benefits of living in the Soviet Socialist State and wanted to explore the possibilities of emigration. This question apparently caused the lecturer much confusion and the answer only came out after some hesitation.

We are sending copies of this letter and enclosure to the Chanceries at Jerusalem, Washington, Cairo, British Middle East Office.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY.

42

107/2/48

Lecture in Politekhicheski Muzei
on the
Palestinian Problem at U.N.O. -
5th January, 1948.

This very boring lecture, which went on for about two and a half hours contained precious little that was either new or interesting. The lecturer devoted the major part of her time to the Palestinian problem in general and only touched on the Palestinian problem at U.N.O. towards the end of the lecture. She quoted many facts and figures about the population, industrial growth and agriculture of Palestine and described at length English machinations and Anglo-American competition in the Near East in conventional terms. Talking of the political parties, both Arab and Jewish in Palestine, she characterised the terrorist organisations of the Stern gang and Irgun Zvai Leumi as fascist and the Zionists as reactionary and bourgeois. One fact of possible interest which she mentioned was that uranium deposits had been found in Palestine.

The audience, largely Jewish, was highly critical of the lecturer's performance and there were some interruptions. One member of the audience shouted gore-spetsialist! (poor specialist!). Numerous questions were put to the speaker at the end of the lecture. Among the more interesting were:

(1). Could a Jewish citizen of the Soviet Union go to Palestine if he wanted?

Answer: We are living in a socialist State; we are approaching Communism; therefore I doubt whether anyone would want to go to Palestine, but if anyone does, then let him apply to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

(2). Why is it that the Soviet Union in proposing the creation of two separate states in Palestine is taking the same stand as America?

Answer: This is purely coincidental. Soviet motives are very different from American motives. The Americans want to see the creation of two states so that they may play off one against the other.

Several Jews with whom I spoke after the lecture expressed great dissatisfaction with the lecture saying that they had read everything the speaker said hundreds of times in the newspapers. A Jewish woman-engineer with whom I spoke condemned terrorist activities in Palestine - she considered that they would produce no positive results and would only lead to pogroms in England.

27

E

645 | 43

1948

15 JAN

PALESTINE

Registry Number E645/1/31

TELEGRAM FROM

Mr. Pelham

No. Baghdad

Dated 5?

Received in Registry 15 Jan

15 -

Iraqi Consular Guard in Jerusalem

Refers Palestine tel. no. 1 (E548/1/31) [illegible] Minister for Foreign Affairs stated that Iraqi Consul-Gen at Jerusalem had reported rumour that US Consulate might receive permission to have a Marine consular guard. Iraqi Govt. have instructed Consul that if permission is granted he should immediately demand permission for Iraqi guard without waiting for anticipated application of similar action by other Arab States.

Last Paper.

617

References.

695/1/31

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

Q. Mathieson C.O.
Overend Cab. Off.
M.I.3a
M.O.4
Admy
A.M.
Jan 15th 1948

(*Minutes.*)

The Saudi Arabians have already asked for permission to send a guard.

H Beeley 15/1

L.C.L. Pyman 16/1

17.1

See within Palestine tel to 230 Jan 30

HB. 4/2

(Action completed.) J.E.M. 20/1

(Index.) 4/2/48

Next Paper.

695

30471 F.O.P

44

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]

Cypher/OTP DEPARTMENTAL

FROM BAGDAD TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Pelham, D. 10.16 a.m. 14th January,1948.
No.59
13th January,1948. R. 12.07 p.m. 14th January,1948.

E 643
JAN

Repeated to Jerusalem,
Beirut,
Damascus,
Jedda,
B.M.E.O.Cairo.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.59 of January 13th repeated to Jerusalem, Beirut, Damascus, Jedda, B.M.E.O. CAIRO.

SECRET

Jerusalem telegram No.1.

Director-General Ministry of Foreign Affairs told me today that Iraqi Consul in Palestine had reported rumour that American Consulate might receive permission to have Marine Consular guard.

2. Iraqi Government have instructed the Consul that if permission is granted he should immediately demand permission for Iraqi guard without waiting for anticipation of similar action by other Arab States.

3. He went on to point out that to allow American guard would open the door to similar demands from others.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat]

QQW

15

645 1 31 45

INWARD TELEGRAM

Cypher (O.T.P.) TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

FROM PALESTINE (General Sir A. Cunningham).

D. 30th January, 1948.
R. 30th " " 20.00 hrs.

No. 230 Secret

Addressed to H.M. Ambassador Baghdad No. 17.
Repeated to the S. of S.

Your telegram to the Foreign Office No. 54.

Consular Guards.

See my telegram No. 1.

2. Size of Consular guard should be agreed between Consul-General Jerusalem and District Commissioner, Jerusalem.

3. Scale of arms for Consular guards is prescribed in my telegram No. 10, and scale of ammunition in my telegram No.11. In addition a reserve of 250 rounds may be held for each "free" rifle or pistol under lock and key with reserve of ammunition.

4. Suggested date, time and place of arrival of Consular guard should be notified to this Government by Consulate, and arrangements will be made to meet it and see it safely to Jerusalem. As stated in my telegram No.11, arms should be boxed and should accompany guard.

Copies sent to:-

Cabinet Offices
" "
" "
Ministry of Defence
" " " (J.I.S.)
Treasury
"
Admiralty
"
"
"
War Office
"
" (M.O.4.)
"
Ministry of Transport.
" " "
Air Ministry
"
Foreign Office
" "
" "
M.I.5.
Foreign Office
" "

= Mr. S.E.V. Luke.
= Brig. Cornwall-Jones.
= Lt. Col. Sherman.
= Mr. A.J. Newling.
= Major Gabbett.
= Mr. D.F.C. Blunt.
= Mr. W. Russell-Edmunds.
= Mr. P.N.N. Synnott.
= Captain Maunsell.
= Capt. D.H. Hall-Thompson.
= Mr. G.C.B. Dodds.
= Brig. J.R.C. Hamilton.
= Brig. I.L. Wansbrough-Jones.
= Lt. Col. M.K. Chamberis.
= Major C.de B. de Lisle.
= Mr. B.F. Picknett.
= Mr. F.C. Kennie.
= Grp. Capt. V.H.B. Roth.
= Mr. B.A.B. Burrows.
= Mr. H. Beeley
= Mr. J.C.S. Keith.
= Mr. J.C. Robertson.
= P.S. to Sir Orme Sargent.
= P.S. to Foreign Secretary.

28

E

E 695 |46

16 JAN 1948

PALESTINE

Registry Number E695/1/31

TELEGRAM FROM Mr Broadmead

No. Unnumbered

Dated 26

Received in Registry 14 Jan

11 –

Guard for Syrian Consulate

Syrian Govt. will be sending up to 12 guards for Consulate General Jerusalem. Govt. have asked [illegible] to find out how Govt of Palestine wish they carry rifles and two automatics with ammunition to be transported. May the guards carry them unloaded or should they be [illegible] and transported with the guards. [illegible] Syrian Consul General [illegible] urgently.

ADDRESSED JERUSALEM No. 8.

Last Paper.

(645)

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, Watkinson C.O
Overseas Col Off
M.I.3a
M.O4
Admty
a.m.
Jan 19th

(Action completed.) G.E.M. 20/1

(Index.) 9/1/48

Next Paper.

696

(Minutes.)

I take it that the Govt. of Palestine have agreed, as in the case of the U.S. guard

B.S. Beith
Jan 16
(BEITH)

The Arab States – Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Syria – are now preparing to send consular guards to Jerusalem. I doubt whether it is wise from their own point of view to establish the precedent, particularly as we know through the American Embassy that Mr. Loy Henderson is hoping to prevent the despatch of U.S. marines to Palestine for the same purpose

H Beeley 19

L.E.L. Pyman
19/1

B.A.B. Burrows
17.1

P.T.O.

30471 F.O.P

To F.P. Paris tel 136 20/1
" " " 150 22/1

HB Jan 27

See notes Palestine tel L 231 Jan 30.

HB. 5/2

E 1095

16 JAN 1948

Cypher /OTP DEPARTMENTAL

E 47

FROM DAMASCUS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Broadmead D. 4.08 p.m. 14th January, 1948
No. 26
14th January, 1948 R. 5.25 p.m. 14th January, 1948

Repeated to Cairo
Memin.

CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Jerusalem telegram No. 8 repeated to Foreign Office Cairo and Memin.

Syrian Government will be sending up to 12 guards for Syrian Consulate General Jerusalem. They have asked me to find out how you wish their arms (rifles and 2 automatics with ammunition) to be transported. May the guards carry them unboxed or should they be boxed and transported with the guards or sent to Syrian Consul General Jerusalem separately?

Cairo only. Please pass to Memin as my telegram No. 6 Saving.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat].

PPP

48

INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

E695/1/71

Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 22nd January, 1948.
R. 22nd " " 13.05 hrs.

IMMEDIATE

No. 150 Confidential.

Addressed to Damascus, No. 162.
Repeated to Beirut, No. 163.
" " Jedda, No. 13.
" " Baghdad, No. 11.
" " Amman, No. 164.
" " Cairo, No. 14.
" " S. of S.

My telegram No. 153.

Arms for Consular Guards.

Following scale of ammunition for Consular Guards has been laid down:

(a) For one "free" automatic 500 rounds.

(b) For each "free" rifle or pistol 50 rounds.

(c) For each "sealed" automobile (?automatic intended) (limited to six) 2,500 rounds.

Copies sent to:-

War Office (M.O.4) - Lt. Col. H.M. Charteris.
Foreign Office - Mr. H. Beeley.

INWARD TELEGRAM INWARD

Encl 49

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

E695/1/31

Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 20th January, 1948.
R. 20th " " 14.00 hrs.

No.136 Confidential.

Addressed to Damascus, No.153.
Repeated to Beirut, No.155.
" to Jedda, No. 12.
" to Baghdad, No. 10.
" to Amman, No.156.
" to Cairo, No. 12.
" to S.of S.

Your telegram No.8 (not repeated to all).

Arms for Consular Guards in Palestine.

After discussion with representatives of Consuls General, it has been agreed that guards should be armed with rifles and revolvers and not more than one automatic weapon per Consulate. Additional automatic weapons up to six per Consulate may be brought to be kept under seal and not for use at present. All arms should be boxed and may be transported with guards to Jerusalem.

Copies sent to:-

Foreign Office - Mr. H. Beeley.
War Office (M.O.4) - Lt. Col. M.M.Charteris

50

E

INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Cypher (O.T.P.)

695 1 31

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 30th January, 1948.
R. 30th " " 20.00 hrs.

No. 231 Confidential.

Addressed to H.M. Minister, Damascus, No. 244.
Repeated to Beirut, No. 245.
" " Baghdad, No. 18.
" " Jedda, No. 17.
" " Cairo, No. 29.
" " Amman, No. 246.
" " S. of S.

Consular Guards.

1. (?In addition to) the scale of ammunition prescribed in my telegram to you No. 163, a reserve of 250 rounds per "free" rifle or pistol may be held under lock and key, with six reserve automatics.

2. It will simplify the procedure if all matters relating to Jerusalem Consular Guards are dealt with between the consul in Jerusalem of the country concerned and this Government (represented by the District Commissioner, Jerusalem) rather than by the government of the country concerned and British representative in their Capitals. Suggest that you invite the Lebanese Government to proceed accordingly.

Copies sent to:-

Cabinet Offices — Mr. S.E.V. Luke.
" " — Brig. Cornwall-Jones.
" " — Lt. Col. Sherman.
Ministry of Defence — Mr. A.J. Howling.
" " " (J.I.S) — Maj. Gabbett.
Treasury — Mr. D.F.C. Blunt.
" — Mr. W. Russell-Edmunds.
Admiralty — Mr. P.N.N. Synnott.
" — Capt. Maunsell.
" — Capt. D.H. Hall-Thompson.
War Office — Mr. G.C.B. Dodds.
" " — Brig. J.R.C. Hamilton.
" " (M.O.4) — Brig. L.L. Wansbrough-Jones.
" " — Lt. Col. M.B. Charteris.
Ministry of Transport — Maj. C. de B. de Lisle.
" " — Mr. B.F. Pickwett.
Air Ministry — Mr. F.C. Rennie.
" " — Air Commodore Brook.
Foreign Office — Grp. Capt. V.H.B. Roth.
" " — Mr. B.A.B. Burrows.
" " — Mr. H. Beeley.
M.I.5 — Mr. J.G.S. Beith.
Foreign Office — Mr. J.C. Robertson.
" " — P.S. to Sir Orme Sargent.
— P.S. to Foreign Secretary.

29

E

PALESTINE

E 696 51

16 JAN 1948

1948

Registry Number	E696/1/31
FROM	E A Bramhall M.P.
No.	
Dated	6th January
Received in Registry	12 Jan 16 –

Future of Lt Col O.W. Robinson

Transmits extract from a letter from Lt Col Robinson at present Manager of Palestine Citrus Board, who would like to remain in Palestine after the withdrawal, and offers his services to the FO.

Last Paper.

695

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Dft E.A. Bramall M.P.
Jan 29

E.A. Bramall M.P
Jan 29
from Mr Reddaway.

(Action completed.) J Ellis 2/2

(Index.) 9/11/48

Next Paper.

699

(Minutes.)

Draft submitted.

H. Beeley 27/1

B.A.B. Burrows 29/1

H.B. 31/1

26513 F.O.P.

E Acd 14/1

E 1698

16 JAN 1948

House of Commons,
London, S.W.1

12th January, 1948.

C.P. Mayhew, Esq., M.P.,
Foreign Office.

Dear Chris,

I have a friend in Palestine - Lt. Col. A.W. Robinson, who is at present Manager of the Palestine Citrus Board. The following is a quotation from a letter he has written me, and he has asked me to find out if he can be of any assistance to your department after withdrawal from Palestine:-

"I should like to have your view as to the desirability or otherwise of my making direct contact with the Foreign Office in view of my probable future connection with Palestine after the evacuation of the present Government. Conditions in Palestine will certainly continue to have some influence on Middle East affairs and I should probably stay here for the same reason as the Member of a crew does not desert a ship in the storm.

"I shall be one of the few remaining enjoying a certain amount of confidence from both Arabs and Jews, and if there is anything I could do that will contribute to a peaceful solution of the Palestine problem, would you please let me know your advice or whether I should, after the 15th May, refer direct to the Foreign Office, in which case would you please let me know the precise name and address of the individual concerned, or do you think in the first place I should address Bevin direct, a thought that has been in my mind for some time?

"I need hardly remind you that I am in the unique position of being the only individual with direct access to Arab-Jewish quarters, independently of local British Government contacts, which, to say the least, are extremely limited."

Yours sincerely,

Denis Bramall

E.A. BRAMALL. ESQ., M.P.

53

January 29th, 1948.

This letter was approved by Mr. Mayhew, but was not ready for his signature before he left London for New York. In order to avoid further delay I am, therefore, taking the liberty of forwarding it to you.

(Sgd.) G. F. N. REDDAWAY

Private Secretary.

E. A. Bramall, Esq., M.P.

Registry
No. E 6961/31.

~~Top Secret.~~
~~Secret.~~
Confidential.
~~Restricted.~~
~~Open.~~

Draft. Letter to
Mr. Bramall M.P.
(from Mr. Mayhew)

NR
27/1

Mr Rendall

H. Beeley 24/1

16/1

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(2/47) (14728) Wt. 11489—144 250m 5/47 G.S.St.

OUT FILE

54

You will remember that you wrote to me on the 12th January, quoting from a letter you had received from Lt. Col. A.W. Robinson, a friend of yours who expects to stay in Palestine after the end of the mandate and who wishes to know whether he can be of use to the Foreign Office at that time.

You may care to inform Col. Robinson (in confidence, since ~~these~~ our arrangements have not yet been made public) that H.M. Government will be represented in Palestine after the 15th May by officers of the Foreign Service, and that it is intended that these representatives should arrive in Palestine before that date.

As Manager of the Palestine Pictures Board Col. Robinson ~~he~~ will have no difficulty in securing an introduction to them, and I am sure they

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference:-

FO 371/68500

they will b glad to make contact with him. I think this would b more useful than an exchange of letters with the Foreign Office in London.

55

January 29th, 1948.

E 696/1/31.

Confidential.

You will remember that you wrote to me on the 12th January quoting from a letter you had received from Lieut. Colonel A. W. Robinson, a friend of yours who expects to stay in Palestine after the end of the mandate and who wishes to know whether he can be of use to the Foreign Office at that time.

You may care to inform Colonel Robinson (in confidence, since our arrangements have not yet been made public) that His Majesty's Government will be represented in Palestine after the 15th May by officers of the Foreign Service, and that it is intended that these representatives should arrive in Palestine before that date. As Manager of the Palestine Citrus Board Colonel Robinson will have no difficulty in securing an introduction to them, and I am sure that they will be glad to make contact with him. I think this would be more useful than an exchange of letters with the Foreign Office in London.

(Parliamentary Under Secretary).

E. A. Bramall, Esq., M.P.

30

1948

E

PALESTINE

E 699

16 JAN 1948

56

Registry Number: E 699/1/31

FROM: M Rumphrey

No. N° 10

Dated 7th January 1948

Received in Registry 13 JAN 16 -

Political Situation

Transmits copy of letter & N.D. Watson, CO of Jews asking what reply should be returned to Jewish Agency's letter enclosed. Asks for suggestions for answering Jewish Political.

Last Paper.

E 696

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Dept. J.L. Rumphrey N° 10 from M. McAlpine 24 Jan.

(Minutes.)

C.O. will presumably consult us.

H.J.3. 16/1

To P.S. J.L. Rumphrey from M. McAlpine 15/1
enclosing copy of letter from N.D. Watson CO. 15/1
and letter from J. Ashton to P.N. 14/1

H.J.3. 20/1

To P.S. N.D. Watson CO. from M. McAlpine 17/1

Yes, I think we should agree.

Mr. McAlpine
CM/CA.
24/1.

H.J.3. 22/1

To P.S. J.L. Rumphrey N° 10 from J. Ashton 26/1

H.J.3. 37/2

See with this letter from Mr. Ashton & Press Summary.

H.J.3. 47/2

(Action completed.) 14/1

(Index.) 29/1/48

Next Paper.

1061

E 57

MR. MCALPINE,
FOREIGN OFFICE

U.N(Pol) Dept.
CMcA

E 699 14/1

16 JAN 1948

With the compliments

of

Mr. Pumphrey.

10, DOWNING STREET,
WHITEHALL, S.W.1.

13th January, 1948.

58

13th January, 1948.

Dear Sir,

I write on behalf of the Prime Minister to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th January.

Yours truly,

(Sgd) J. L. Pumphrey

Mr. James Ashton.

Enclosure E.

59

13th January, 1948.

I enclose a copy of a further letter which the Prime Minister has received from Mr. James Ashton, to whom Smith wrote on the 8th January (75872/22/48 Pal.). Mr. Ashton's subject has now spread beyond the purview of the Colonial Office: but I should be very grateful if you could advise on what reply should be returned to him, in consultation with the Foreign Office.

I am sending a copy of this letter and enclosure to McAlpine.

N.B. Watson, Esq.,
Colonial Office.

COPY

99, Northbrook Street,
Newbury.
12th January, 1948.

60

Dear Prime Minister,

I have now received a reply from the Colonial Office regarding my "Letter To U.N.O." The letter states that my "scheme for the formation of an International Volunteer Force to take over the maintenance of law and order in Palestine could not be contemplated until the mandate has been relinquished". This statement completely misinterprets my proposals. In the first place, I have not used the word "international", and I should no more think of using it then "inter county" in regard to national affairs. Secondly, I have not suggested that the Volunteers should take over the maintenance of law and order. I have clearly stated their function would be to create a new atmosphere; make peace if possible; and, if that is not possible, provide relief and ameliorative measures. These functions could be commenced at once, and are in no way conditioned by the relinquishment of the mandate. I find it difficult to understand how The Colonial Secretary could so misinterpret my proposals.

You will no doubt appreciate by now that what I am aiming at, extends much wider and deeper than merely the Palestine issue. I am stating the right of the individual to serve, influence, and eventually be directly represented in world

politics ...

politics without being confined and barred by the National State; and I am stating that the use of armed force by world authority is neither practical nor desirable. It will prove impracticable both in Palestine and in Kashmir; and the present Palestine Partition Plan is ample proof of its undesirability. The only practical function of a world assembly is one of moral leadership, and that function cannot be properly developed by a body comprised exclusively of representatives of national governments. In brief, Sir, this embryo world assembly is not as wise or as effective as it could be, and it will go the way of the League unless the individual has a direct relationship to it. My scheme of Volunteers is the means of effecting this.

The time is rapidly approaching when we shall no more think of a world assembly composed exclusively of Foreign Secretaries than we should now think of a House of Commons composed exclusively of LordsLieutenant or County Council Chairmen, and I feel that you and Mr. Bevin share that view.

I have pondered deeply on this, the major political issue of our time, and it continues to absorb my thought and attention to the detriment of my business and private affairs, which are grave enough already. I submit to you that the devotion to the subject which I have shown, and the sacrifices I have made, entitle my views to something more than the departmental consideration reflected in the letter from the Colonial Office of January 8th.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) James Ashton.

COPY

10, Downing Street. 62

15th January, 1948

Dear Watson,

With reference to my letter of 13th January, I enclose a copy of a further letter which the Prime Minister has received from Mr. James Ashton. I should be very grateful if you would take this further letter into account (particularly the last two paragraphs) in suggesting a reply to Mr.Ashton.

I am sending a copy of this letter and enclosure to McAlpine.

Yours sincerely,

(sgd) J. L. Pumphrey

N. D. Watson, Esq.,
Colonial Office.

COPY

99, Northbrook Street,
Newbury.
14.1.48.

63

Dear Prime Minister,

In his letter to Mr. Anthony Hurd of January 8th, the Colonial Secretary states that my proposals might be more appropriately addressed to the Secretary General of The United Nations. My immediate objective is to obtain an opportunity to address the General Assembly of The United Nations; but, in present circumstances, only you can make that possible. Therefore I must concentrate on you at this stage.

In my letter to you of January 12th I said that the Volunteers are the means to effect a direct relationship between the world assembly and the people. I now wish to amplify that statement.

When we consider this problem on an elective basis, we are faced with the fact that, for many reasons, it would not be possible to return representatives on a constituency basis from a world population of 2,000 millions who have reached differing standards of development. But if you accept my Volunteer thesis, it becomes quite practicable. In this way.

Assume that the Volunteers are well under way, and have proved their usefulness in Palestine and elsewhere. From their number, certain men and women will stand out as being of special service to the world community. They would be generally acclaimed, and deemed worthy of an occasional hearing, and eventually a seat in the General Assembly. Thus, entry to the world assembly would increasingly tend to become by virtue of service to the world community. Such entrants would be "of the people" because they were acclaimed "by the people". We should then have an Assembly in which power politics would continue to play

their...

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their inevitable part, but it would be leavened and inspired by proven Volunteers. The active work of the Volunteers would be as I have outlined in my letter of January 12th, and in my "Letter to U.N.O.", but this is not to say they would withhold their support of national armed force, or national armed forces in association, in all circumstances; although it would not be compatible with their function to use armed force themselves.

Palestine at this moment, is the starting point and the proving ground. I have not chosen this moment to intervene. I have been made to intervene by a remarkable incident on November 1st., when I was told clearly and unmistakably to write to you. I am convinced that we are on the eve of great events, and that your support is what I must first obtain.

I know nothing of astrology, and it does not figure in my thoughts, but I believe that God has set the stars in their courses, and when one of them follows an unusual course, I think it is reasonable to assume that something unusual may be afoot. You will remember that Comet 1947 N appeared about November 15th, and it has rather baffled the astronomers. It may, or it may not, have some significance. I do not know; but of this I am certain. God is about to perform a mighty work, and you and I have parts to play which we dare not reject.

Yours sincerely,

(sgd) JAMES ASHTON.

U.N. (Pol) Dept.
Do you agree?

CMCA 17/1/48

17th January, 1948.

Dear McAlpine,

You will have seen the letters from Mr. James Ashton to the Prime Minister enclosed with Pumphrey's letters to me of the 13th and 15th January. As far as the Colonial Office is concerned we have nothing to add to Smith's letter of the 8th January in which we informed Mr. Ashton that we could not contemplate sponsoring his idea. Unless you have anything to add I think that the situation might be met if Pumphrey were to send Mr. Ashton a short letter of acknowledgment and thanks.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Pumphrey.

Yours sincerely,

H. Dacre Watson

Private Secretary.

R.D.C. McAlpine, Esq.

FOREIGN OFFICE,
S.W.1.

OUT FILE

66

24th January, 1948.

My dear Laurie,

You sent to us on 15th January a copy of your letter to Watson at the Colonial Office about the letter which the Prime Minister had received from Mr. James Ashton on the subject of the formation of a volunteer force for Palestine. The United Nations and the Eastern Department of the Foreign Office, in consultation with the Colonial Office, have carefully considered the propositions contained in Ashton's letters but do not consider that a reasoned reply to either of them is necessary. They recommend that you should send Mr. Ashton a short letter of acknowledgement and thanks, pointing out, if necessary, that the information contained in his letters was not sufficiently concrete to enable the Foreign Office to comment on it in considered terms.

Yours ever,

J.L. Pumphrey Esq.,
10, Downing Street.

10, Downing Street,
Whitehall.

PW
67

26th January, 1948.

Dear Sir,

I write on behalf of the Prime Minister with further reference to your letters of the 12 and 14th January.

With regard to your proposals on Palestine, Mr. Attlee regrets that he can add nothing to the letters which were written to you and to Mr. Anthony Hurd, M.P., by the Colonial Office on the question.

With regard to the wider question of the constitution of the General Assembly of the United Nations, Mr. Attlee thinks that your proposals, though interesting, are not likely to be practicable at this stage.

Yours truly,

(Sgd) J.L. PUMPHREY.

James Ashton, Esq.,

68

COPY

99. B. Northbrook Street,
Newbury,

29th January, 1948.

Dear Prime Minister,

Thank you for your letter of January 26th.

Yours truly,

(SGD.) JAMES ASHTON

The Prime Minister,
10, Downing Street,
Whitehall, S.W.1.

32

1948

E

E 817 69

21 JAN 1948

Registry Number E 817/1/31

FROM A. Homer

No. 89, Castlow Gardens

Dated Kensington

Received in Registry 29 XII 47 21 Jan

Future of Palestine

Refers previous correspondence (E9831/46/31) transmits proposition for H.M.G.'s consideration re Future of Palestine in exploration for and development of mineral resources. Encloses copy of letter to King Abdullah.

Last Paper.

814

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Dft. A. Homer
from Sir Lee
Feb 9th

Dft. M. Legge Bourke MP
from Dept.

Dft. Chancery. Amman,
(encs)
Feb 13th

(Minutes.)

I am told by the C.O. that Dr. Homer has been writing to them for years, and that she is not to be taken seriously. These drafts submitted.

H Beeley 5/2

CMCA 13/2.
Private Secretary.

LS 6/2

Dft P.P. A. Homer to Mr Ede 17/2

D Bathurst 23/2

Mr Walker

You may care to read, — and to remind Amman

D.B. 22/4

Dft P.P. A. Homer to Mr Bevin 31/5

D.B. 3/6

(Action completed.) 9 Feb 46/2

(Index.) 9/11/47

Next Paper!

818 (3325)

26513 F.O.P.

1. Int Ack 30/1
2. Eastern Dept. CA/CA 30/1.

16, Great College Street,
LONDON, S.W.1.

70

Tel: Whitehall 0026.

27th January, 1.46.

Dear Sir,

Dr. Alice Jamer of 39, Onslow Gardens, S.W.7. has shown me a copy of the letter which she wrote to you on the 18th October last year, and to which so far she has received only a formal acknowledgement.

She has also shown me a copy of a letter which she sent to H.H.Emir Abdullah, and I understand that a similar copy has also been sent to you, though not yet acknowledged.

In view of the rapidly approaching withdrawal from Palestine I should be most grateful if you would answer the points which Dr. Homer raises as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

The Rt. Hon. Ernest Bevin, M.P.,
Foreign Office,
Downing Street,
S.W.1.

[redacted]

In the course of the recent debate in the House of Commons on Palestine, the Secretary of State for the Colonies informed the House that His Majesty's Government intends to withdraw troops from Palestine by the 1st of August, 1948, and that, subject to negotiations with the United Nations Commission, the Mandate may be terminated by the 15th of May, 1948.

I am, therefore writing to ask you whether you have now been able to consider the proposition made by me in my letter to you dated the 18th of October, 1947, whereby His Majesty's Government could secure a substantial share and a voice in the future development of the colossal subterranean resources of Palestine (and Transjordan) to the mutual advantage of Palestine (and Transjordan), of the British Chemical Industry, and of the agriculture of the world-at-large.

2. In my said letter, I pointed out that, owing to the inclusion of the majority of the German Potash Mines in the Russian Zone of Germany, the farming industry of the British Commonwealth of Nations, and indeed, that of the world, needs potash fertilisers in quantities which cannot be supplied from surface brines such as the Dead Sea. They could, however, be supplied from the Potash Mining Industry which awaits initiation in Palestine and Transjordan, as these countries contain resources of potash minerals far greater in extent than those which exist in Germany.

In this connexion, I drew your attention to the fact that, before the surrender of the Mandate, His Majesty's Government could, with advantage, make use of the position, as regards the rights to explore for and develop the mineral resources in certain areas in Palestine and Transjordan which had been offered me, and to which I have continued to hold fast. (Vide enclosed sketch Map indicating the areas concerned- the section in Transjordan was slightly modified by an official in 1934).

In actuality, owing to the disturbances which followed the Arab Strike and the Arab Rebellion, exploration could not be commenced until the Governments of Palestine and Transjordan could assure me that field-work could be undertaken with safety. This assurance was not possible up to the outbreak of the World War in 1939. Thereafter, His Majesty's Government vetoed exploratory work in Palestine and Transjordan for the War period. Since the end of the War, the position has been held up on account of the Terrorist activities.

3. I also intimated that American finance is making large-scale plans to gain possession of, and to exploit the veritable treasure-house which exists in Palestine and Transjordan.

It may therefore interest you to learn that, when the recent World War had reached the stage at which it became

/clear

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when ~~that~~ Germany was facing defeat, the official who was then Controller of Mines in Transjordan, attempted to undermine my legal position. His action coincided with the alleged formation of a syndicate, as reported in the Press, by American and other Zionist interests to acquire rights to develop the mineral resources of Palestine and Transjordan.

The Transjordan Controller of Mines, however, seemed oblivious of the fact that my position had been made secure under the existing Mining Laws and Regulations by the acceptance by his predecessor-in-office of payments by me. For that reason, it was outside his province to attempt to break the contract in an arbitrary manner.

Following my subsequent correspondence with the said Controller of Mines, I discussed the position with an Arab, who advised me to communicate with His Majesty King Abdullah. This I did, but my original letter, sent by registered post, was not received by His Majesty. A copy of my letter was later delivered by hand, and was duly translated into Arabic for perusal by King Abdullah. (Vide enclosure 2.)

The subject of the possible co-operation of British and Arab interests in the development of the Transjordan section of the colossal storehouse of minerals common to Palestine and Transjordan, referred to in my said letter to the King of Transjordan, was discussed by me with a delegate from Transjordan who was present at the Conference which you called in the Autumn of 1946.

Up to the present, I have not received information that exploration and development rights for minerals (other than oil) in the areas offered to me in Transjordan have been diverted to any other parties.

4. As stated in my previous letter, I shall be happy to call upon you at any time which may suit your convenience in order to supply you with any further details which you may desire.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

A. Homer

(A.Homer) M.A., Sc.D., F.R.I.C. etc.

Enclosure 1. Rough Sketch Map indicating areas in Palestine and Transjordan under discussion;

Enclosure 2. Copy of letter to His Majesty King Abdullah of Transjordan. (4 June 1946)

H.

Your Majesty,

[illegible] of Transjordan has been [illegible] to take delivery of the said permits.

In adopting this attitude, the Controller of Mines was either unaware of or had overlooked the fact that my alleged failure to take delivery of the said permits lay at the doors of the Governments of Transjordan and of Palestine and [illegible] Mandatory Power. So far as I am concerned the position is as follows:-

My earnest desire to obtain the development of the resources of Palestine and Transjordan dates from [illegible] when my scientific researches led me to the conclusion that the [illegible] of the Dead Sea Region, [illegible] indications of the [illegible] of oil and other minerals which exist in Palestine and Transjordan. The effective development of these resources would be the foundation of the future prosperity of these countries.

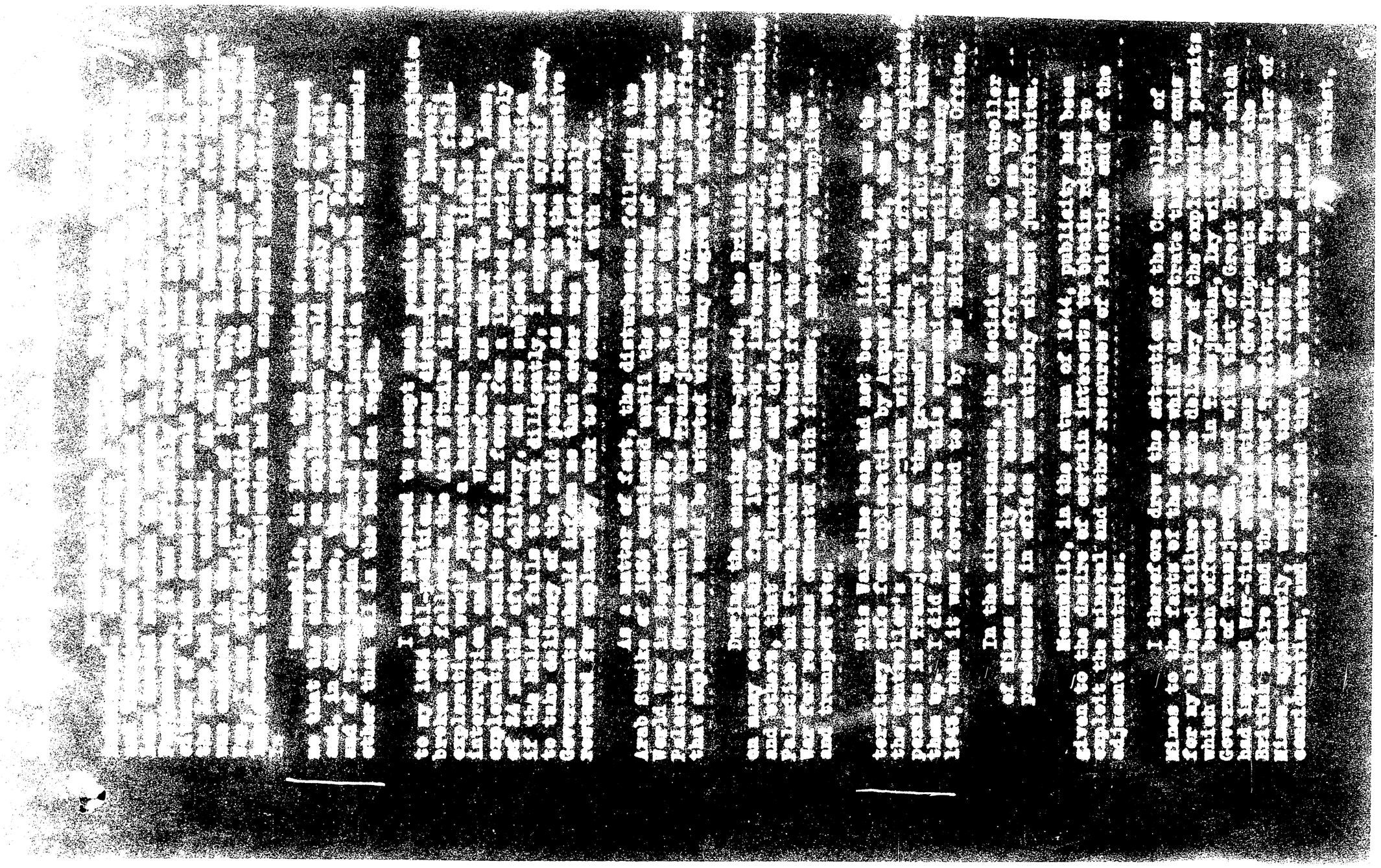
My proposals for the development of these resources were first placed before the British Government in [illegible]. They included plans for the extraction of [illegible] until the subterranean deposits of oil and minerals could be mined. In [illegible], a concession was granted to the [illegible] Group merely to extract potash and other salts from [illegible] solution in the waters of the Dead Sea.

Subsequently, however, in [illegible] and in [illegible], exploration permits under the Mining Laws were granted to me [illegible] all minerals including oil [illegible] in the Dead Sea Region. At the request of the British Colonial Office and of the Governments of Palestine and Transjordan, I proceeded to Jerusalem and to Amman in September [illegible] to complete the formalities, to accept delivery of permits and to commence field-operations in the autumn of that year.

In this connection, I would respectfully recall to Your Majesty's mind an audience in Amman which you graciously gave me on the [illegible] of September, [illegible], when I was presented to you by Miss Florence [illegible], Palestine. At that audience, with Miss [illegible] acting as interpreter, I informed Your Majesty that I was seeking [illegible] permits and rights to develop the mineral and oil resources of Transjordan to the mutual advantage of Transjordan and of Great Britain. Your Majesty [illegible] from the Governments of Transjordan and of Palestine.

/In September,

FO 371 68509



I have the honour to be,

Your Majesty's obedient servant,

(Signed) A. Homer,

(A.Homer) M.A.,Sc.D.,F.R.I.C. etc

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. E 817/1/31

Draft.

~~Top Secret.~~
~~Secret.~~
Confidential.
~~Restricted.~~
~~Open.~~

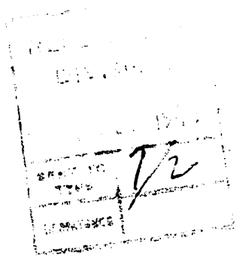
H.B.

H.M. Chancery,
Amman.

From:
Eastern Department

letter and enclosure to Latter in original

H Baley 5/2



3rd
3 Drafts

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.
13 February, 1948.

Dear Chancery,

We enclose a letter which the Secretary of State has received from Dr. A. Homer, who claims to hold concessions to explore for mineral resources in certain areas of Palestine and Transjordan. We understand that Dr. Homer has in the past been in correspondence with the Colonial Office on this subject and that they do not take her very seriously.

2. We should be glad to know whether you have any comments on these alleged concessions, so far as they relate to Transjordan.

EC/2

77

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

13th February, 1948.

(E 817/1/31)

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Chancery,

We enclose a letter which the Secretary of State has received from Dr. A. Homer, who claims to hold concessions to explore for mineral resources in certain areas of Palestine and Transjordan. We understand that Dr. Homer has in the past been in correspondence with the Colonial Office on this subject and that they do not take her very seriously.

2. We should be glad to know whether you have any comments on these alleged concessions, so far as they relate to Transjordan.

Yours ever,

EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

The Chancery,
British Legation,
Amman.

Registry
No. E 817/1/31

H.B.

Draft.

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

Dr. Homer.

(from Private Secretary)

Private Secretary

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

78

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.
9th February, 1948.

The Foreign Secretary has asked me to ~~refer you to~~ acknowledge your letter of the 29th December, enclosing a letter which you sent to H.M. King Abdullah of Transjordan in 1946, on the subject of mineral rights in that country.

2. This correspondence is being referred to H.M. Minister in Amman for his comments.

3. So far as Palestine is concerned, I am instructed to draw your attention to paragraph 3 (d) of Chapter ~~III~~ 3 of Part 1 of the Resolution on Palestine adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on the 29th November 1947. This paragraph reads as follows:

"Commercial concessions granted in respect of any ~~any~~ part of Palestine prior to the adoption of the Resolution by the General Assembly shall continue to be valid according to their terms, unless

/modified

modified by agreement between the concession holder and the State."

"The State" in this context means either the Arab or the Jewish State which it is proposed to establish in Palestine. In the case of concessions covering the whole country, a modification negotiated with one State would of course not apply ~~to~~ in the territory of the other.

5/2

79

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

9th February, 1948.

(E 817/1/31)

OUT

Dear Dr Homer

The Foreign Secretary has asked me to acknowledge your letter of the 29th December last, enclosing a letter which you sent to His Majesty King Abdullah of Transjordan in 1946, on the subject of mineral rights in that country.

This correspondence is being referred to His Majesty's Minister at Amman for his comments.

So far as Palestine is concerned, I am instructed to draw your attention to paragraph 3(d) of Chapter 3 of Part I of the Resolution on Palestine adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on the 29th November, 1947. This paragraph reads as follows:

> "commercial concessions granted in respect of any part of Palestine prior to the adoption of the Resolution by the General Assembly shall continue to be valid according to their terms, unless modified by agreement between the concession holder and the State."

"The State" in this context means either the Arab or the Jewish State which it is proposed to establish in Palestine. In the case of concessions covering the whole country, a modification negotiated with one State would of course not apply in the territory of the other.

Yours sincerely
John Henniker

Dr. A. Homer,
89, Onslow Gardens,
Kensington,

(Private Secretary)

80

13, February 1948

(E 817/1/31)

Dear Legge Bourke

I write to thank you for your letter of the 27th January, in which you asked me to comment on certain points raised by Dr. A. Homer regarding mineral rights in Palestine and Transjordan.

2. I have asked His Majesty's Minister at Amman to give his views on Dr. Homer's letter insofar as it concerns Transjordan. Meanwhile an interim reply is being sent to her.

Yours sincerely
(for Ernest Bevin)

Major E.A.H. Legge-Bourke, M.P.

Registry
No. E 817/1/31

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

H.B.

Draft. Major E.H.H.

Mr. Legge Bourke,
M.P.

From:

~~Private~~ Secretary
of State.

CM2A b/w
Private Secretary
first.

HBeeley 5/2

81

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

13 February, 1948.

I write

~~Mr. Bevin has asked me~~ to thank you for your letter of the 27th January, ~~referring to letters which we have received from~~ asked me to comment on certain points raised by Dr. A. Homer ~~on the subject of~~ regarding mineral rights in Palestine and Transjordan.

2. ~~The question raised by Dr. Homer, inso-far as they concern Transjordan, are being referred to our Legation~~ I have referred Dr Homer's letter to His Majesty's Minister in Amman for their views, Meanwhile an interim reply is being sent to her.

RC/2

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(2/47) (14728) Wt. 11489—144 250m 5/47 G.S.St.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference:- FO 371/68500

E. Dept 817 / 21

17th 18/2

E 82

6520

17th February, 1948

Your Reference:-E 817/1/31

Dear Mr Henneker,

I would thank you for your letter of the 9th of February, with reference to my letter of the 29th of December last addressed to the Foreign Secretary, informing me that the subject matter of mineral rights in Transjordan is being referred to His Majesty's Minister at Amman.

Will you kindly convey to the Foreign Secretary my thanks for his interest in the matter, and my hope that he is considering the proposition which I made in my letter to him, dated the 18th of October last, to the effect that His Majesty's Government should make use of the rights to which I am entitled under the Mining Laws of Palestine. For, as I have pointed out, the securing of a British- Government-controlled share in the development of the colossal subterranean resources of Palestine(and Transjordan) would be of inestimable service, not only to the British Empire, but also to the world-at-large, as it would guard against the formation of monopolies which could exercise a stranglehold on the world's chemical and fertiliser markets such as Germany achieved in her struggle for World Domination.

I await a further communication regarding this matter with keen interest.

Yours sincerely,

A. Homer.

(A.Homer)
M.A.,Sc.D.,F.R.I.C.etc.

John Henneker,Esq,
Private Secretary to the Rt.Hon.Ernest Bevin,M.P.,
(Foreign Secretary)
Foreign Office,
London S.W.1

P.W.

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6--- 6520

31st of March,1948

(Registered Post)

817 1 21

Dear Mr Bevin,

In view of the vitally important subject
----- dealt with in my attached letter to you, I feel I need not apologise for its length, and that you will give it the greatest consideration.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

A. Homer,

(A.Homer)

M.A.,Sc.D.,F.R.I.C.etc.

To:The Rt.Hon.Ernest Bevin M.P., P.C.,
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,
The Foreign Office,
Downing Street,
London S.W.1

---- Enclosure marked Personal and Important.

PERSONAL and IMPORTANT.

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---- 6520

31st March, 1948

Dear Mr. Bevin,

Your Reference: E 817/1/31

In furtherance to my letters to you of the 18th of October and the 29th of December last and to your Private Secretary's communication of the 9th of February, I would draw your attention to reports, which have appeared in the technical journals since the announcement of His Majesty's Government's decision to withdraw from Palestine, to the effect that preparations are being made by International Capitalist Groups to develop the oil and mineral resources of Palestine, and to build up a Chemical Industry in that country after the British Government has relinquished the Mandate.

These reports are in accord with the conclusion at which I arrived many years ago as a result of my experiences and investigations of these matters. The facts clearly indicated that the truth about the Palestine resources was being concealed, and that their effective development would be held up by certain Vested Interests so long as that country was under the Administration of Great Britain.(See Section 3)

2. I sincerely trust, therefore, that you will earnestly consider and adopt the proposition which I have already put before you to the effect that His Majesty's Government, or its nominees, should make use of the rights, to which I am legally entitled under the Mining Laws of Palestine and of Transjordan, to explore for and develop the mineral resources in an area of some 8,500 square kilometres of land around the Dead Sea in these two countries.

For, as certain of these Groups are proposing to drill in parts of the said areas, there is the possibility that their activities may be used by interested parties as a means of attempting to undermine my position when the Mandate ends.

You instructed my attention to be drawn to the Resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly regarding any such rights in Palestine. Nevertheless, my said rights might be manoeuvred into the hands of International Cartels which would ultimately develop the mineral ~~of~~ resources of Palestine and Transjordan for their own ends, and without regard for the welfare of the peoples of the countries owning these resources and of the needs of the world for such supplies.

The colossal deposits of mineralised chemicals, etc., which exist at depth below ground in Palestine and Transjordan are deemed to be greater in extent than those of the Stassfurt regions upon which Germany built up powerful chemical and metallurgical Combines which dominated and controlled many of the world's markets and industries.

But, as the bulk of these German deposits are now in the Russian Zone of occupied Germany, and the German Chemical Industry was seriously disrupted by the ravages of war, the need for the development of the subterranean deposits in Palestine and Transjordan is becoming a matter of the utmost

/importance

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importance in world economics.

Therefore, should my proposition be adopted, ~~the~~ His Majesty's Government's utilisation of the mineral rights to which I am legally entitled would be of the greatest service in securing a truly British-controlled participation in the coming development of the vast resources of Palestine and Transjordan, and of the Chemical Industries based thereon.

Such participation would prove to be of inestimable value to Great Britain and to the British Colonial Development, which will, in particular, need large supplies of potash fertilisers hitherto mainly supplied from Germany, but, now no longer available from that source.

To meet these needs, a Potash Mining Industry must, sooner or later, be established in Palestine and Transjordan, as,for technical reasons, the present Dead Sea Salts Industry which is based upon the evaporation of surface brine, cannot possibly furnish more than a fraction of the potash fertiliser requirements of the proposed agricultural developments.

As a matter of fact, the annual output of potash fertilisers from the Dead Sea Salts Industry is only about 100,000 tons of 80 % pure potassium chloride(i.e. 50,000 tons of potash K_2O), whereas the world's consumption was at least 2,500,000 tons of potash,K_2O,per annum just before the Second World War.

Furthermore, the serious deficiency of supplies of German Potash Fertilisers for sale in the world's markets cannot be met by the sum total of the possible exports from the other(smaller) European Potash Mining Industries which were members of the German-controlled European Potash Cartel. The deposits in these mines are considerably smaller than those in Germany. Incidentally, the Dead Sea Salts Industry, which was launched in 1930,became a member of the said cartel and its output, sales and markets would therefore come under German influence.

3. It may interest you to know that the solar evaporation of Dead Sea Brine had been included in my proposals placed before the British Government in 1918 merely as a temporary expedient to obtain potash fertilisers in a relatively small quantity(i.e. up to 50,000 tons of potash, K_2O, ~~p.a.~~) until a Palestine Potash Mining Industry could be established as a sure means of breaking the stranglehold of the German Potash Monopoly. My main objective was to drill for Oil and for Potash-bearing strata in certain localities,to begin with, where there was the probability of finding oil in quantity at from 1500 feet to 3,000 feet below ground, and beds of potash minerals at depths of 700 feet or less below ground.

The Government was then prepared to render very considerable assistance to the undertaking, and called upon my associates to send a commission of experts to report in situ. But, for political reasons, our commission was not allowed to proceed to Palestine, and the matter was held up until Peace with Turkey was signed.

In the meantime, and thereafter, various International interests which did not want these resources effectively developed while these countries were under British control, saw to it that their extent and potential value should be belittled; that

/"official"

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"official" attention should be focussed merely upon the Dead Sea Brine; and that, for one reason or another, test-drilling for the oil and potash deposits, known to exist at depth, should be continuously delayed.

In consequence, an "official" attitude was adopted, and has since been maintained, to the effect that the existence of any such deposits of oil and potash minerals was problematical, and that their development must be left to private enterprise - which, incidentally, could easily be blocked or diverted from its aims by powerful Vested Interests.

(i) The opposition of Vested Oil Interests to drilling in Palestine.

During the course of my investigation of the position, I learned that some of the Major Oil Groups, now associated together in the Iraq Petroleum Company(the I.P.C.), had, formerly, vied with each other for possession of the Palestine oilfield. The reports of their technical experts, who had explored or prospected in situ under Ottoman Permis de Recherche held by Arab Notables, were highly favourable.

But, when the Mosul Oilfields became available for exploitation after the end of the First World War, these Groups, under the terms of their forthcoming participation in the Iraq Petroleum Company, agreed to withdraw from the Palestine oilfield. ~~Thus experts~~ Thereafter, these Oil Interests did their utmost to discourage all interest in the Palestine oilfield, To this end they denied the existence of oil in the country, and even issued statements negativing the findings of their own technical experts who had found oil in payable quantity, and, in so doing, had pierced through beds of potash minerals.

In December,1932, following the cancellation of the D'Arcy Oil Concessions in Persia, the then Colonial Secretary directed me to apply for the necessary permits to explore for and develop the oil and mineral resources of Palestine and Transjordan. In 1934, when, at the request of the Government, I had gone to Jerusalem and to Amman to complete the formalities prior to my associates commencing exploration and test-drilling operations that autumn, the said Oil Groups persuaded His Majesty's Government to veto any such operations until fresh oil-mining legislation was enacted. In particular, I was officially informed that the Standard Oil Company had objected to my proposed exploration of the Kornub region because of what was known to exist there at depth by them and by me. However, as Lord Plumer, a former High Commissioner, had reported to the Colonial Office that they had asked for permission to transfer the rights under the pre-war Permis de Recherche back to the original Arab holders, and that permission to do so had been granted, the Standard Oil Company's objection to our proposed operations was invalid. in 1934

After a delay of some four years, a new Oil-Mining Ordinance was enacted in Palestine in the autumn of 1938. By its terms, the Iraq Petroleum Company was given virtual control of the development of the Palestine oilfield no matter who might hold prospecting licences in that country.

Shortly before the outbreak of War in 1939, the Iraq Petroleum Company obtained oil-prospecting licences over the greater part of Palestine. In this way, it secured a footing in the Palestine oilfield irrespective of the outcome of the coming War. But, although, on account of the precarious oil-position of the Allies, costly "wild-cat"drilling for oil took place in all parts of the world, apparently no effort was made to procure

during the War,

/oil

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oil in Palestine where technical experts had long known of its existence and called for its exploitation.

(ii) German opposition to the disclosure of the beds of potash fertiliser minerals in Palestine.

From official, technical and other sources, I also learned that one of the said Oil Groups, (which, later, became openly associated with German Chemical Interests in the American I.G. Chemical Corporation, and with whom they had been co-operating for some years) had informed Germany of the location of the beds of potash minerals which had been pierced during the drilling for oil.

The said region was one of the areas which had been earmarked by me from 1918 onwards as suitable for drilling, and with every prospect of disclosing subterranean deposits of potash minerals as well as of oil. My estimate of the probable depths of these strata was almost identical with the said disclosures to Germany, and subsequently referred to in the German Technical Press.

This information was of great value to Germany as she had long known of the existence of these mineral resources. She considered, however, that while Palestine and Transjordan were under Turkish rule, there was little danger of the establishment of a potash industry in these lands which might prove a rival to the German Industry . Germany had good cause to fear the mining of potash deposits which she did not directly or indirectly control. But, for technical reasons, she knew that a potash industry based upon the evaporation of a surface brine would not affect her markets and chemical monopolies.

As German influence was active in Turkey, the concession which was granted by the Ottoman Government in 1913 for the extraction of bromine, potash and other salts from Dead Sea Brine, debarred the concessionaires from exploiting the mineralised deposits in the vicinity.

When Palestine came under British Administration, and my proposals for the establishment of a Palestine Potash Mining Industry came under consideration, Germany exerted her influence through the medium of its cartel partnerships with American, British and German oil, chemical and other interests, to block the establishment of an industry in Palestine for the Mining of Potash and other minerals.

As a result of these influences, the British Government, in due course, granted a concession merely for the extraction of potash and other salts from the waters of the Dead Sea, and, as in the case of the Pre-War Turkish Dead Sea Concession, the concessionaires could not drill for the subterranean deposits of potash minerals and of oil, etc.

Subsequently, in 1936 the Dead Sea Salts Industry was allowed to enter into agreements with the German Potash Syndicate as regards output, prices, markets, etc. Its output is still only about two per cent of the world's consumption of potash per annum.

4. During the Second World War, I strongly urged His Majesty's Government to exercise its authority under the Emergency Powers Act to order the development of the oil and potash mineral resources of Palestine to meet the shortage of supply of these vitally essential substances.

The matter was taken up by certain Members of the House /of

of Commons. In due course, the then Minister of Petroleum called a conference on the subject of the Palestine oilfield at which I was present. An official spokesman denied the existence of Oil in Palestine. Thereupon I disclosed the findings of the Oil Groups referred to under Section 3, and those of other experts. A summary of these findings was set out in a memorandum at the request of the Minister of Petroleum.

The Minister of Petroleum was subsequently furnished with an "official" summary of a report alleging that the Standard Oil Company's experts, who had reported favourably on the Palestine oilfield, had been entirely mistaken in their views, and, in particular, that

" The entire Kornub structure is unqualifiedly condemned as having no oil possibilities "

In consequence, he felt unable to proceed further with the matter, and the Palestine oilfield therefore continued to remain fallow.

5. From time to time, Directors of the Iraq Petroleum Company and its associated Groups have led Members of Parliament, and other responsible persons interested in these matters, to understand that oil does not exist in useful quantity in Palestine. Yet, they have admitted privately to some of my associates that my statements and conclusions were correct but, for the present, the I.P.C. did not want it developed.

However, now that the British are about to withdraw from Palestine, the Iraq Petroleum Company, in which Standard is a participating Group, are proposing to drill in the very area which was thus "damned" ! the Kornub region,

The drilling for oil in the Kornub region, and in other localities covered by the mineral rights to which I am entitled, will disclose not only oil but also the beds of potash and other mineralised salts which must be mined to provide the world with the fertilisers and other chemicals which are no longer available from disrupted Germany.

It is vitally important that Great Britain should share in this development lest the British Commonwealth of Nations, and other peoples, be crippled by the formation of alien-controlled chemical monopolies such as Germany secured by the development of the Stassfurt deposits.

This can be achieved if His Majesty's Government makes use of the rights to which I am entitled, and which cover the Kornub and other promising localities included in the 8,500 square kilometres of land indicated in the sketch map which I have already sent to you.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

A. Homer.

(A.Homer)
M.A.,Sc.D.,F.R.I.C.etc

To:The Rt.Hon.Ernest Bevin M.P.,P.C.,
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,
The Foreign Office,
Downing Street,
London S.W.1

33

E

1943

89

E 818

21 JAN 1948

Registry Number E818/1/31

FROM

No. Washington

Dated

Received in Registry 443/5/48 14 Jan 21 -

Resolutions on Palestine

Refers to Tem Office 15/38/47 (E1035/1/31)

Encloses copies of further resolution on same subject submitted by Congressman Scott.

Last Paper.

817

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8 F.O. Jan 28

(Minutes.)

The same as before, I think, except for the words I have underlined.

Copy to F.O.

N.A. Dept

H.B. 23/1

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

Next Paper.

859

26513 F.O.P.

90

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON 8, D. C.
14th January 1948

Ref: 413/5/48

Dear Department,

Please refer to our letter 15/381/47 of the 22nd December about resolutions on Palestine submitted to the House of Representatives by Congressmen Somers and Scott.

2. We enclose herein copies of a further resolution on the same subject submitted by Congressman Scott.

We are sending copies of this letter to Jerusalem and to the United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations at New York.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY

Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

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80TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 418

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 6, 1948

Mr. HUGH D. SCOTT, JR., submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Whereas the Congress of the United States (in Public Resolution 73, Sixty-seventh Congress, second session, and S. Con. Res. 44, Seventy-ninth Congress) has favored assistance for the rebuilding of Palestine under the terms of the League of Nations Mandate; and

Whereas the United Nations have formally adopted a resolution which recognizes the rights of the Hebrew people to sovereignty in Palestine and have called upon the British Government to evacuate a seaport in an appropriate area of Palestine not later than February 1, 1948, in order to facilitate the free entry of Hebrews into Palestine; and

Whereas some two hundred and fifty thousand Hebrews now find themselves in the Allied zones of occupation in Germany, Austria, and Italy living under deplorable conditions, and considerations of humanity and justice dictate that these

survivors of Nazi brutality, who lost six million of their kin, should be assisted to resume a new and dignified life; and

Whereas immediately after VE-day the United States Army repatriated seven million European displaced persons to their countries of origin; and

Whereas the United Nations decision on Palestine now makes it possible to resettle all the Hebrew displaced persons to that country; and

Whereas the President of the United States, on October 4, 1946, publicly announced that preparations for this movement have already been made by the United States Government and that the Government is ready to lend its immediate assistance for the purpose of transporting displaced persons to Palestine; and

Whereas the speedy evacuation from Europe of the Hebrew displaced persons would have a beneficial effect on the stabilization of Europe which the United States now seeks to achieve; and

Whereas the maintaining of these displaced persons in the camps constitutes continuing expenses to the occupation authorities, which expenses are greater than the single cost of their repatriation to Palestine: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that the President (1) should direct the appropriate agencies of the Government to take action to remove from the American zones of occupation in Europe all Hebrew displaced persons desiring resettlement in Palestine and to assist in their resettlement by transporting them to Pales-

tine prior to October 1, 1948, in order that separate camps and settlements for Hebrew displaced persons in the American zones of occupation may be closed by such date; (2) should direct the proper authorities in the American zones of occupation to undertake immediately the program of resettlement of such Hebrew displaced persons in order to reduce the heavy financial burden on the United States occasioned by the maintenance of such camps; and (3) should authorize the employment of such facilities of the United States (including vessels and land transport facilities) as may be necessary to accomplish such resettlement as expeditiously as possible.

80TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 418

RESOLUTION

To express the sense of the House that the United States should resettle Hebrew displaced persons in the American zones of occupation by providing for their transportation to Palestine.

By Mr. HUGH D. SCOTT, Jr.

JANUARY 6, 1948
Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

94

1948

E

E 859 93

21 JAN 1948

Registry Number E857/1/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received in Registry 302

Last Paper.

C/8

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8 Watchman CO
1 Enveloped Cab Off
M.I.5a
M.O.4
Admty
A.M.
Jan 24

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

Next Paper.

S66

(Minutee.)

Please give usual Palestine circulation (immediate to C.O.) and re-submit.

H. Beeley 23/1

Sir PP. CO tel 302 24/1
~ Palestine tel 200 27/1

H.T.S. 18/2

30471 T.O.P

E 1053 | 94

21 JAN 1948

En Clair

DEPARTMENTAL DISTRIBUTION

FROM WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Lord Inverchapel
No. 302
20th January,1948

D: 8.00 p.m. 20th January,1948

R: 5.05 a.m. 21st January,1948

IMMEDIATE

American Mogden Dovid for Palestine have been requested by their Head Office in Palestine to send urgently about two thousand pounds weight of dry blood plasma and three thousand adoption needless weighing about five hundred pounds for drawing fresh blood for their blood bank. Later on they hope to send 110 gross of surgical needles.

2. They have asked State Department to request United States Military authorities to supply an aircraft to fly plasma and adoption needles to Palestine and it is very likely that, the request will be granted but it is the State Department's policy not to give their approval to the War Department for flights of this kind unless the request comes through or has the approval of the Government or administration of the country to which the consignment is to go. I should therefore be glad to know as soon as possible whether I may tell State Department that you would have no objection to the dispatch to and import into Palestine of these supplies. The organisation informs us that according to their general policy they will be available to both Jews and Arabs.

G G G G

INDEXED

INWARD TELEGRAM 859 / 21

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

En Clair

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E

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 27th January, 1948.
R. 27th " " 21.15 hrs.

No. 200.

Addressed to S. of S.
Repeated Ambassador Washington,
BRIEF No.41.

Your telegram No.302.

Have informed Ambassador Washington no objection to blood plasma supplies from American Red Hogan David Organisation, but it should be realised that such supplies will in practice be available only to Jews. No objection to carriage between Cairo and Palestine in British plane, but I assume that if R.A.F. assistance is sought, approach would be made in Cairo. I suggest, however, that ample commercial air freightage is available.

Copy sent to:-

Foreign Office - Mr. H. Beeley.

OUTWARD TELEGRAM

pw 96

FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

E859/1/31

En Clair

TO PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

Sent 24th January, 1946. 16.00 hrs.

IMMEDIATE

No. 302

American Mogden Dovid for Palestine have asked State Department to request U.S. Military Authorities to supply an aircraft to fly to Palestine dry blood plasma and adoption needles requested by Local Head Office of American organisation. Supplies would be available for both Jews and Arabs.

2. Presume you would have no objection to this flight. Please confirm by telegram to Washington reference Ambassador's telegram No. 302 to Foreign Office not repeated to you.

Copy sent to:-

Foreign Office - Mr. H. Beeley.

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E

1948

PALESTINE

E 866

21 JAN 1948

97

Registry Number E 866/1/31.

FROM G. McNeil, Esq. M.P. & Mr Bevin

No.

Dated

Received in Registry 16 Jan 21 "

U.K. Armed Forces in Palestine

Transmits copy of letter from Mr C.V. Graham, with leave for the safety of his son, an Army Officer serving in Palestine.

Suggests a demand be made for an immediate withdrawal of British forces from Palestine.

Last Paper.

859

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

F73. 31/1

(Action completed.) 2/2

(Index.)

Next Paper.

869

26513 F.O.P.

1. Pat Heth. 19.1.48
2. Eastern Dept
P.V. CMCA E
17/1.

16th January 1948.

98

The Rt. Hon. Ernest Bevin, M.P.,
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,
Foreign Office,
Whitehall, S.W.1.

My dear Bevin,

I enclose a letter from Mr. W. V. Graham, 9, Bradda Avenue, Hurnside, Rutherglen, Lanarkshire. He feels that in view of public opinion our forces should be withdrawn from Palestine.

Yours sincerely,

Gilbert McAllister

Gilbert McAllister, M.P.

TELEPHONE RUTHERGLEN 995

9 BRADDA AVENUE.
BURNSIDE.
RUTHERGLEN.
LANARKSHIRE.

99

8/1/48

Mr G. McAllister M.P.
House of Commons
London.

Dear Sir, I am writing this appeal to you, and, I am quite sure you will sympathise with my feelings and fears, at having a Son serving, as an Officer in His majesties Forces at present in Palestine. You will realise, that my personal feelings, are shared alike, by thousands of British Parents, who are similarly placed, and, I feel that this undercurrent of Public opinion, should be brought right into the open, and, a demand for an <u>immediate</u> withdrawal of our forces in this area. As you are aware, British Lives, are being lost every day, in this Zone. and, I would ask you, to put forth a very strong request, that the Government bring forward, the Date, that has been fixed for the withdrawal of our Troops, in Palestine.

Yours Faithfully
Wm J Graham.

P.S. If you are giving this letter any publicity, in view of my Sons position in the army, I would ask you to withhold my name & address
WG.

36

E

1948

E 1088 160

21 JAN 1948

Registry Number E869/1/31

FROM

P.U.S.

No. Matheson

Dated 20

Received in Registry } E.M. Beeley 19 Jan 21 -

Refer. House of Lords debate

transmit copy of revised draft speech for Lord Listowel to be made - reply to motion on Palestine in House of Lords 20 Jan.

Last Paper.

866

References.

(Minutes.)

& P.P. 60 Cd & P'tine 15-7 11/1

- P'tine Cd 119 18/1

H.B. 21/1

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
G.E.M. 22/1	9/4/48

Next Paper.

883

26513 F.O.P.

Colonial Office
19th January 1948.

101

E 869
21 JAN 1948

My dear Bully,

I enclose a copy of the revised draft speech for Lord Listowel. I also enclose an exchange of telegrams with the High Commissioner about the debate. We feel that most of the points suggested have been adequately touched on in the draft or best left out of a speech which is not designed as an arraignment of the Jews.

Yours ever, Erik Bathurst

[redacted]

Much has been said - and rightly said - in the course of this debate about the difficult task now being undertaken by our men in Palestine. The burden now being borne by the officers of our administration there has never been heavier in the whole troubled history of that country and the security forces, both police and military, have the most exacting of duties. Their conduct and bearing are beyond praise and I am sure that Your Lordships will share my admiration for the steadfast manner in which they are carrying out their tasks. As Your Lordships are aware, we have made it abundantly clear that we cannot allow our forces to be employed in imposing upon either community in Palestine a solution which they are not prepared to accept. We have, however, informed the General Assembly of the United Nations that [redacted] would not obstruct any decision taken

by them and that we would loyally conform with that decision inasfar as its terms did not conflict with the conditions which H.M.G. had announced during the discussions.* We have therefore decided to

*See Note A.

terminate the Mandate for Palestine and to withdraw our troops and administration from that country at the earliest possible date. We have declared our intention of terminating the Mandate not later than 15th May 1948 and withdrawing our troops not later than 1st August, 1948.* We are now in negotiation

*See Note B.

with the United Nations Commission in New York with a view to agreeing with them the best time-table for the replacement of our authority by theirs. We should like to see this replacement effected in the most orderly manner possible, and I can assure the Noble Lord, Lord Altrincham, that we are very conscious of the desirability of avoiding a complete collapse of authority which would have grave repercussions on the life of the country. Nevertheless, we are determined to extricate our administration and troops by at least the dates which

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which we have set in our provisional time-table and I have no reason to believe that events in Palestine have in any way made it likely that we shall not be able to complete our withdrawal by the 1st August, 1948. Meanwhile, so long as the U.N. continues to hold the mandate, the Mandatory Government remains responsible for law and order in Palestine.

Unfortunately neither community in Palestine has taken any heed of the appeal made by my Right Honourable friends the Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in another place last month when they expressed the hope that all parties would carefully weigh up the consequences of conflict and refrain from indulging in provocation. I am afraid that both the principal communities in Palestine have been guilty of acts of severe provocation since that appeal was issued and disturbances, which at their outset were neither grave nor widespread, have now multiplied through provocation and counter-provocation until many peace-loving citizens of the country live in daily dread for their

/life

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life and property. In these circumstances we have concentrated the resources of the security forces in the mixed areas where the risk of inter-communal conflict is greatest and have taken steps to assist both communities, in areas where either Arabs or Jews are in great majority, to make arrangements for their own security. On the Jewish side we have withdrawn British and Arab police from the Tel Aviv-Petah Tiqvah area and have agreed to the formation there of an armed Jewish civil guard. On the Arab side it is similarly our policy to assist in the establishment of a civil guard force in the form of municipal and local police in the towns and villages. The Jaffa Municipal Police force has now been expanded and Arab police under British command have been placed in charge of the Hebron and Nablus sub-districts with some British troops for general security. These arrangements in no way affect the centralised control of the security forces under the High Commissioner and the General Officer Commanding who of course retain

/overall

overall direction of security operations. The general purpose of these moves is to strengthen the British police force in Jerusalem and other centres where communal clashes are frequent. This is necessary to provide security conditions adequate to enable Government officers to continue their functions.

Orders have been given that there are to be no searches for arms except in cases where there is evidence that arms have been misused or are likely to be misused for offensive purposes. For instance it has been made clear to the Jewish Agency that nothing will be done to obstruct Jewish self-defence organizations so long as they act in a purely defensive role. In the case of offensive or provocative action, however, I must make it clear that our authorities have taken and will continue to take strong measures to counter such action. For example, so long as we remain responsible for order and security in the country we will not tolerate the violation of the frontiers of Palestine by armed bands bent on offensive action against the people of the

/Countries

country. His Majesty's Government have had occasion recently to lodge a protest with the Syrian Government regarding the use which had been made of Syrian territory as a base for a raid into Palestine territory. It is our policy to do our utmost to prevent aggression by either Jews against Arabs or Arabs against Jews.

In the generally disturbed state of the country there must inevitably be some contraction of the functions of government. The policy of the Palestine Government is to maintain in operation all those departments whose work is essential to the life of the community and to close in those staffs whose work in present conditions is no longer possible or fruitful. So far as possible British officers are being replaced in posts of responsibility by Palestinians. This policy is designed not only to effect that continuity in experienced administration, to the desirability of which the Noble Lord, Lord Lamington, rightly drew attention, but also to enable the Administration to send out of Palestine

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those officers and their families who can no longer contribute fully to the work of Government. In this way it is hoped to expedite the withdrawal from the country of those British civil servants who can now be spared.

It is against this background of difficulty in relocating that the United Nations Commission now assembled in New York is making its plans for the establishment of the successor authority. The Noble Lord, Lord Birkenhead, drew attention in his speech to the obligation which he felt rested upon His Majesty's Government to make available to the United Nations the accumulated knowledge and experience of our administration in Palestine. For Sir Alexander Cadogan's discussions with the Commission we have sent to New York expert advisers, one from the administration in Palestine, and one from the Colonial Office, in order that this knowledge and experience may be at the disposal of the Commission from the outset. Our experts will supply the Commission with all possible information

/ they

they may request to assist them in their task. The noble Lord pointed out the greatest difficulty facing the Commission will be the establishing in relation of some central authority which will ensure that the life of the community is maintained while constitutional changes are made. It is one of the duties of the Commission to establish a Joint Economic Board representative of both the Arab and Jewish States and of the United Nations to run the common services. We propose to draw the attention of the Commission to the many matters they will have to provide for in this sphere. The responsibility will be theirs, not ours, and His Majesty's Government have made it clear that they cannot take part in action designed to implement any plan which is not acceptable to both communities. Our representatives at the United Nations discussion in the autumn of last year when the report of the special Committee on Palestine was being examined made it clear that the Mandatory Government could not undertake to maintain responsibility for the

/administration

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administration of Palestine while the United Nations were putting any such plan into effect.

Consequently the proposal to which the Noble Lord refers, namely, an interim period of two or three years before the United Nations plan was finally implemented was eliminated from the plan as finally approved by the General Assembly. In fact this plan requires the United Nations Commission to establish independent Arab and Jewish States in Palestine not later than 1st October 1948 thus reducing to the minimum the transitional period between the adoption by the General Assembly of its recommendations and the establishment of the successor states.

There have been many references to the special problems connected with Jerusalem. That the Holy City is of interest not only to the inhabitants of Palestine but to all members throughout the world of the three great monotheistic faiths was recognised by the General Assembly when they resolved that an international regime for the City should be

/established.

established. The Mandatory Government retains full responsibility for order in the city until the termination of the Mandate. Thereafter their responsibility is at an end. The General Assembly has laid down the general principles on which the successor regime shall be founded. The exact boundaries of the City have yet to be determined by the United Nations Commission but the plan to which they are to work involves the inclusion in the international zone of the whole City of Jerusalem, both ancient and modern, and its immediate environment, including Bethlehem. Responsibility for the establishment of this regime was laid upon the Trusteeship Council who immediately set about the task of preparing a statute for the City. Our representatives on the Trusteeship Council have played their part in the preparation of this statute which is now about to be completed by a working committee. The report of this working committee will be submitted to the Council at a special session on the 9th February, and it will be then the duty of

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the Council to decide the measures necessary to put the statute into operation. I shall ensure that the views and sentiments expressed in this debate on the future of Jerusalem shall be brought to the notice of our representative on the Council.

I turn now to the question of immigration. Last month both my Right Hon. Friends the Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs made an appeal in another place to the Jews to desist from further illegal immigration during the short remaining period in which we shall be responsible in Palestine. They pointed out that if any attempt were made to bring in numbers of immigrants in spite of our control this would be a most important contribution to unrest and they expressed the hope that at this critical moment common sense would prevail. In spite of that appeal the two largest ships yet to engage in the traffic, PAN YORK and PAN CRESCENT, have reached Cyprus with over 15,000 souls on board and in addition three other ships carrying some 2,300 immigrants have arrived. There are now over 31,000 Jews in the Cyprus camps. I would here recall that H.M.G. have already announced that they cannot have

/illegal

illegal immigrants on British territory after the military withdrawal ~~on the 1st of August~~ and that our delegation in New York are charged with negotiating with the U.N. Commission in order to see that this is arranged.

One of the recommendations of the U.N. Assembly was that the Mandatory Power should use its best endeavours to ensure that an area situated in the territory of the Jewish State, including a sea port and hinterland adequate to provide facilities for a substantial immigration, should be evacuated not later than the 1st of February, 1948. My Right Hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs said in another place that H.M.G. cannot agree to open a port until we lay down the Mandate. We cannot have two administrations at one time. We do not underestimate the importance attached by the Jews to this matter. There are however but a few months to pass before we lay down the Mandate and I would

/ask

ask that the parties concerned should exercise a little patience.

At an early stage in my speech I paid tribute to the uncomplaining fortitude of British Civil Servants and Police. The Government are not in a position today to make any detailed statement about the compensation terms that will be offered to these men. I hope that it will be possible to publish a White Paper in the very near future. I can assure Noble Lords that H.M.G. and the Government of Palestine are approaching these problems with the intention of ~~doing full justice to the claims of~~ giving a square deal to these men. In the meantime special steps have been taken to ensure that Palestine staff are considered for all current vacancies in the Colonial Service and progress is already being made in transferring officers to other posts.

There are about 4,000 men in the British section of the Palestine Police Force and although

/over

over half have less than two years service and many chose to serve with the Force for their period of national service we have felt it of the greatest importance to help to find other employment for them either in this country or in other parts of the Commonwealth. As an example of the steps that are being taken I may say that a Police and Prisons Mission is leaving this country by air today to select men suitable for appointment to these services.

NOTE A

Conditions announced by HMG during the discussions were:-

(a) HMG could not accept the responsibility for enforcement, either alone or in a major role, of any plan not acceptable to both Arabs and Jews.

(b) HMG were prepared to relinquish the Mandate and make way for such successor authority as the United Nations might decide.

(c) So long as HMG continued to hold the Mandate for Palestine they must insist on their undivided control of the country.

(d) The Palestine Government would not transfer authority directly to councils of government or any other local bodies under a scheme of partition, since this would in practice amount to the implementation of the scheme by HMG. They would make way for a United Nations body which could then undertake to devolve its authority to successor governments as it thought fit.

NOTE B

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Foreign Secretary's remarks in the House of Commons on 12th December on the dates:-

(a) 15th May for termination of Mandate:

"We should like to have accepted the suggested date in February, but we found it was physically impossible to do so and we have had to tell the United Nations that fact. On the other hand we have indicated to them that they must get on with the Commission because 15th May is the last date. We are definite on that, and, therefore, there can be no misunderstanding of our position."

(b) 1st August for departure of troops:

"So that 1st August, bearing all these facts in mind, and the associated facts and circumstances - the transport and the rest - was the very best date to which we could absolutely pledge ourselves. But here again, if circumstances arise in which we can speed this thing up to bring it earlier we shall do it."

INWARD TELEGRAM

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TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 18th January, 1948.
R. 18th " " 20.20 hrs.

IMMEDIATE

No. 119 Confidential

Addressed S. of S.
Repeated UKDEL New York, No. 139 for Trafford Smith (Washington please pass).

Your telegram No. 157.

Parliamentary Debate.

Suggestion that priority for citrus is delaying withdrawal is unfounded. For your information but not for use in the debate, withdrawal of citrus traffic from [group omitted] in favour of Army stores would probably encourage both Arabs and Jews to sabotage the railway. It might be pointed out that

(a) continued shipment of citrus is important contribution to Britain's food supplies

(b) as the Mandatory, we are not entitled to sabotage Palestine's economy in our own interests

(c) maintenance of citrus exports does not in any case delay Military withdrawal. What would delay that withdrawal (as distinct from withdrawal of the Administration) is the continuance of disturbances resulting in absence of local labour and stoppage of road transport.

2. Other points are:-

(a) Rebut Jewish accusations that Security Forces are not protecting Jews against Arab attacks, c.f. incidents already reported in Heluh, Kfar Etzion, Shefr Amr and Beit Safafa. Role of this Force is to protect life and property without discrimination, so long as the Mandate lasts.

(b) Warn Palestine Arabs and the Arab States that if Arabs continue to attack Jews before the Mandate ends, they will inevitably come into conflict with British Forces. We have their assurances that they do not want this.

/(c)

(c) Warn Jews of the consequences of continuation of dissident attacks on Army and Police, which can only further embitter Anglo-Jewish relations.

(d) Explain position of Hagana, stressing provocative, ruthless and aggressive character of its reprisal policy and that for this reason alone (apart from others) it could not be recognised as a legal Defence Force. Moreover, it is difficult to see how it could become a National Militia for the Jewish State unless that State contemplates applying racial discrimination so as to exclude its 400,000 Arabs from participation in the Force of the State.

(e) Explain position in the Old City of Jerusalem. This is being reported in a separate telegram. Stress urgency of Trusteeship Council's task in establishing a regime to safeguard Jerusalem from the time we leave.

(f) Acknowledge that the Arab Higher Committee in Palestine has been endeavouring to curb Arab violence and is co-operating with the Government to this end.

(g) Emphasise that, in spite of all difficulties, the administrative machine is still functioning and that there is no lack of desire among its Arab and Jewish Officers to continue serving it to the end provided that they have reasonably secure conditions in which to work.

(h) Add that about one fifth of Military stores scheduled to be sent out later on have been sent.

Progress of civil withdrawal depends upon the outcome of discussions now proceeding with United Nations Commission (it should not be said that the disturbances might mean an early civil withdrawal)

(i) Pay a separate tribute to the Police for their devotion to duty under almost impossible conditions.

(k) Point out that in the Tel Aviv area from which British and Arab Police were withdrawn the Mishmar force which the Agency undertook to establish early in December is still not in being; the Arab Municipal Police Force in Jaffa is working well.

OUTWARD TELEGRAM

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FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

76520/4/48

Code

TO PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

Sent 15th January, 1948. 07.00 hrs.

IMMEDIATE
No.157 Confidential.

Addressed Palestine.
Repeated UKDEL, New York BRIEF, No.6, for Trafford Smith.

Parliamentary Debate.

There will be general debate on Palestine situation in House of Lords on Tuesday the 20th January. Debate will be opened by Lord Altrincham.

Grateful for indication of any points which you suggest Government spokesman might stress. I propose to use appropriate material from your telegrams Nos.33 and 53.

Press criticism has been directed against supposed delay in withdrawal caused by policy of non-interference with citrus traffic. Grateful for your comments and for any indication of whether military withdrawal could be expedited by withdrawing priority from citrus.

It would be useful if something could be said to show progress of military and civil withdrawal, but I presume that this would be difficult.

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PALESTINE

E 989 124

23 JAN 1948

Registry Number E989/1/31

FROM

No. Various

Dated

Received in Registry 23 Jan.

Views on Palestine, Pro Semitic.

Various.

Last Paper.

952

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(14) Docket 12/2.

(Minutes.)

1) B.S Zimmerman

2) Dana Herzog

3) John Wainer.

N. American Dept. (no. 1) 26/1

C.I.D. (no. 3).

M.I. 30/1

H.O. 23/1.

4) Richard Weill.

N.A. Dept 18/2

H.O. 12/2

5) Rev. Robert Craig (British subject in New York)

6) Mr Herman Shapiro.

North american dept 24/2

H.O. 20/2

7) Mr & Mrs J. Decker

8) L.M. Hammer

9) Edward J. Sanders.

P.T.O

26513 F.O.P.

(Action completed.) 9 Feb 10/4

(Index.)

Next Paper.

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10) L. H. Hammer
11) J. W. Jackins
12) R. J. Greer
13) Jerome Klein
14) Z. Harlan
15) W. Lidlar
16) World Bitzer
17) I Kreeling.

9/10.

7-17) N.A. Dept. (2-10, 12-13, 16-17)

H73. 61/4

CHAS. S. ZIMMERMAN
Secretary-Manager

E 122

Dressmakers Union Local 22

AFFILIATED WITH JOINT BOARD DRESS & WAISTMAKERS UNION
International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union — Affiliated with A. F. of L.

218-232 WEST 40th STREET ‹› ‹› NEW YORK 18, N. Y.
TELEPHONE LONGACRE 5-5100

January 16th,
1948

Rt. Honorable Clement R. Atlee
10 Downing Street
London, England

Dear Sir and Brother:

I am addressing this letter to you as a Labor Leader who is responsible for the government of Great Britain. Your conduct of the affairs of this government is a matter of deep concern not only to the British people but to all men and women throughout the world who are committed to the cause of socialism and democracy. We in the labor movement of America have always felt very close to British Labor and have been accustomed to look to it for inspiration and guidance. We were naturally elated when Labor swept the last general elections and took control of the government. We were convinced that Labor in power would at last show the world the democratic way out of the desperate blind-alley of capitalism, imperialism and totalitarianism. Britain, which had already led the world in the establishment of personal freedom and parliamentary government, would now demonstrate that Labor socialism meant the fulfilment of the best aspirations of mankind in the establishment of a just and humane social order. A new spirit of far-sighted humanity and justice, we particularly hoped, would be brought into British foreign policy. It is with deep regret that we have to confess that in one respect at least - in the British treatment of the Jews in Palestine - we have been cruelly disappointed.

It is, of course, no secret to you that we have sharply disagreed with you in your Palestinian policy in recent times, and I do not intend to rehearse our criticism or engage in political argument. I want to appeal to you as an American labor man addressing his British colleagues on a level beyond politics or political controversy. You know as well as we do what has been the fate of the Jews in the past two decades. In Europe, the rise and triumph of the Nazi movement meant the launching of a deliberate, carefully planned program to enslave, torture and exterminate the millions of Jews on the Continent. This dreadful crusade was accompanied in Palestine by savage Arab attacks on the Jewish settlements

(con'd)

BRANCH OFFICES

WILLIAMSBURG
2 SUMNER AVE.
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Tel. WIndsor 8-5600

BRONX
505 E. TREMONT AVE.
Tel. TRemont 8-9661

HARLEM
1914 THIRD AVENUE
Tel. LEhigh 4-1050

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with the obvious purpose of terrorizing the Jews and making impossible the development of a Jewish homeland in that country, although that had been guaranteed in more than one solemn declaration of the British government holding the mandatory power. The net result of fifteen years of horror has been tabulated in cold figures: six million Jews murdered on the European Continent. The handful of survivors uprooted, displaced and homeless, are now - two and a half years after the end of the war - still languishing in D.P. Camps without chance or opportunity of reconstructing their lives on a normal human basis.

Here was a situation in which we, American labor men, certainly had a right to expect a great deal from you, the British Labor Government. But what have you done? Not only have you done nothing to bring relief to these shattered victims of Nazi savagery, not only have you shut the doors of Palestine in their face; what is worse, you have not shown the least sign of human sympathy or understanding of their dreadful plight - or at least no such sign of understanding or sympathy has ever been manifested publicly in any significant way. We looked, and looked in hope, for that new spirit that was supposed to animate British policy. We found it in the courageous British resistance to totalitarian expansion in Europe, we found it in India - but in relation to the Jews, in relation to Palestine, not a trace!

Finally the question of Palestine came before the United Nations. After long investigation and deliberation, a decision was reached - partition and the establishment of a separate Arab and Jewish state. The decision of the United Nations immediately became the signal for the mobilization of the Arab forces against the United Nations and the launching of furious attacks against the Jews. Violence and chaos began to ravage the Holy Land. No one questions that the Arabs were the aggressors and that the Jews were placed in a position where they either had to defend themselves or submit to extermination. We do not condone terrorism and we have in the past more than once condemned the small terrorist groups among the Jews in Palestine. But that the violence that has followed the U.N. decision has been provoked by Arab aggression and that the Jewish community and its security forces have been entirely on the defensive, no one who is not blinded by prejudice can deny.

But what has been the attitude of the British Government, of the British Labor Government, led by you? You have apparently not found one word to say in condemnation of the Arab terror, directed not only against the Jews but against the United Nations. But when the Jews, compelled to action in self-defense, strike back at the Arab terrorists, your spokesmen in Palestine are quick to denounce the "dastardly action"! I do not even mention the reports that British police in Palestine have protected or given actual aid to Arab aggressors, nor do I make a point of the action of the British authorities in disarming the Jews and thus leaving them helpless against their enemies. I merely ask: Why is it that the British Government finds its voice only for condemning the Jews when they engage in self-defense and has nothing whatever to say about the Arab terror, about the wanton Arab defiance of the United Nations? This is something that we simply cannot understand.

I am not talking of politics, I am talking of the most elementary claim of humanity. Here is some sort of solution for the aggravated Palestine problem; here is a glimmering of hope for some of the wretched, forlorn

(cont'd)

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remnant in the D.P. Camps. Why is there not a single sign of sympathy, a single gesture of help; forthcoming from you and the government which you head? Have sympathy, humanity and compassion no part in the program of British Labor? Does British socialism mean nothing more than the nationalization of the Bank of England and the reconstruction of British industry? But what is socialism without justice and humanity?

Despite everything, we have not lost our faith in Britain or in British Labor. We can never forget Britain's services to the cause of human freedom through the centuries. We still remember that it was Britain that held the fort against Hitler when the world was at its darkest. We are keenly appreciative of Britain's courageous fight as the outpost of democracy and democratic socialism today. But why - why, we ask - should it be so different in your treatment of the Jews in Palestine and the D.P. Camps? Why must the Jews be made an exception? Why is there no understanding or sympathy for them, why only cold unconcern and ill-disguised hostility?

We are perplexed, disturbed, deeply troubled.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

Chas S. Zimmerman

CHAS. S. ZIMMERMAN,
Secretary-Manager

CSZ:rs
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Précis.

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Letter to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs dated January 6, 1948 from Dora Hering of Melsungen, Hessen, U.S. Zone, Marktplatz, 7.

The writer states that as the messenger of God she now issues the fourth warning to Britain that she must allow Jewish immigration in Palestine or suffer dire consequences.

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Melsungen, den 6.I.48

An das britische
Superministerium
in London!

Es ist bereits die
vierte Warnung, welche
Gott durch mich Euch
zukommen läßt! Hütet
Euch den Zorn Gottes
weiterhin heraus zu

fordern und laß
sämtliche Juden in das
Land Palästina ein-
wandern, wo sie in
den Prägeöfen Gottes
kommen. Auch Ihr
Engländer, Ihr Sonn-
tagschristen, werdet
dem Gericht Gottes
nicht entgehen. —

Gottes kleine Sendbotin

Dora Flering.

The Right Honourable
Sir, Stafford Cripps
House of Commons
London
England.

11, Sendlebury Mansions
73, Gordon Rd
Judith Park
Johannesburg
S. Africa.
14-1-48.

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Sir,

In writing to you, I do so as one who has admired your brilliant statesmanship for many years, and now during these critical times in England, I feel confident that with you at the helm, a course will be followed to safety. Yet, with your amazing ability it is beyond me that you agree or allow the wholesale slaughter of Jews in their defence of the Partitioned land rightfully theirs and endorsed at the U.N.O.

Personally, I am a S. African born Jew, and a soldier of the last two wars, a graduate of McGill University Montreal, & secretary to the old I.L.P. in Cumberland, my feelings are obviously shattered by the activities of your Government in relation to the Jewish problem, and in the faith that I still retain in you, to endeavour by raising your voice in aid of a defenceless race, and now a nation, to alleviate the Palestinian Question is not in your "Department" I feel Sir, that your intervention between the Jewish Agency and Mr Bevan will bear fruitful results.

I write neither as a crank or a politician but only that of a humble Britisher who like so many thousands of my race has sacrificed so much in defence of our Empire that I appeal to your academical and humanitarian principles to prevent the annihilation of a people - whose only crime are that they are Jews - I am not ignoring the political issues as I am fully aware of your vast knowledge in relation to our struggles. I again appeal to you to link your assistance together with our Great Prime Minister General Smuts to grant relief to our intolerable sufferings, or frankly, is it the intentions of your Government to see us destroyed?

As chairman of many ex Soldier organizations and public bodies may I in your good name, pass a word of cheer?

Yours very Respectfully
John Wainer

Personal

AIR LETTER PAR AVION BY AIR MAIL PER LUGPOS LUGBRIEF

If anything is enclosed, this letter will be sent by ordinary mail

As enigiets ingesluit word, sal hierdie brief per gewone pos gestuur word

The Right Hon.
Sir Stafford Cripps.
House of Commons.
London
England.

RICHARD WEILL

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F.O. 4/21

262 Central Park West
New York, N. Y.
January 30, 1948
R. 3. 2.

Major Clement Attlee
Prime Minister
Great Britain

Dear Sir:

I believe your government has descended to the lowest depths of degradation when its representatives at the United Nations have issued a call to incite to murder and assassination. I am referring to a statement issued by your representatives whereby the safety of the Palestine Commission of the United Nations could not be guaranteed by your government, if the Commission were to appear now in Palestine.

Anyone with any amount of intelligence could read within the lines the implied insinuations to the Arabs to violence. I can assure you that a feeling of revulsion has swept through America, even among

those known as Anglo-Jewish.

I have come to the conclusion that your government has deliberately attempted to sabotage the United Nations decision to partition Palestine - to attack its very existence by threats upon the persons, and property of the nations who have called to adminster the decision with regard to Palestine.

Such treatment could be expected from thugs - from the half civilized, so called Arab States - but not from a nation which has claimed to have given the world the principles of the common law.

You and your government should be ashamed. The matter has been brought to the attention of my government by many interested parties, Non Jews and Jews.

If your government claim the sole right to maintain law and order, why does it not fulfil its obligations - Instead we find thousands of troops tacitly sitting by, permitting the Arabs to marauding to murder, while the Jews are disarmed when they defend themselves.

Strong representations have been made to our duly elected members of Congress to withhold

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RICHARD WEILL

further aid to Britain, unless Britain will see to it that no part of the monies advanced go to arm and subsidize the so called Arab States.

The writer of this letter spent two years in the last horrible war, as a member of the Army Public Relations Division and Psychological Warfare Branch, in England, before he left for France for the Normandy and North of France campaigns. He left behind a host of friends with whom he corresponds and whom he has sent food packages. I like England and its people.

But I feel it is my duty to try and bring a bit of sanity to your government - to make it aware of its duties as a constituent member of the United Nations - to make it abide with any decision the United Nations has decided by majority vote - no matter how distasteful it is personally.

If the attitude of your government presents you have struck a death blow at the existence of the United Nations at its very inception - when the world

so sorely needs such a body to bring about peace and good will.

Major Attlee, is any policy of your government so fixed that it can not be altered or reversed. Take a charitable view of Palestine - give the Jews to state your blessing instead of your hatred - and Britain will have lasting friends in the near-east - whom you can count on, and not half barbarous Hungarians whose friendship can be bought with gold.

Very respectfully yours
Richard Heiss

P. S. I hope I may have the honor of a reply from you - personally.

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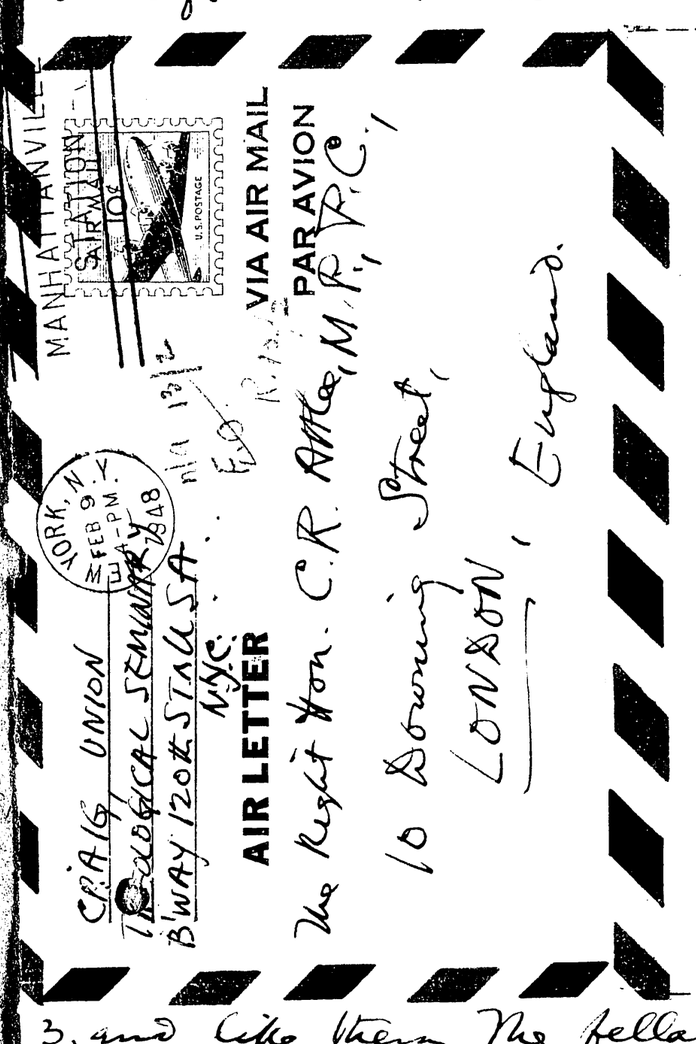
From: The Rev. R. Craig, B.D., Hon. C.F. Union Theological Seminary, Broadway and 120th. Street, New York City 27, U.S.A. 18th. Feb. 1948. Dear Mr. Attlee, I am not in the habit of writing letters to high political quarters. In fact this is the first such and I take the liberty of sending it with no other justification than that I am a British subject who served five years in the recent War as Chaplain to our Infantry in France, BAOR and in Egypt and Palestine, and who was and still is a supporter of the Government you lead. It is to express my sense of shame and disgust at this immoral "sell-out" of the Jews in Palestine. I am not connected with Zionism and I spent two years, until April 1947, as Chaplain to troops in various parts of Palestine and therefore have no pro-Zionist prejudice. But the steady trend of events, ~~being~~ beginning last Autumn with the return of the refugees to Himberg, which whatever its practical justification, appeared to the civilised world as an act of studied sadism - these events continued in our blocking on UNO the possibility of an effective pro-Jewish solution and in our apparent intention to pull out of Palestine in such a way as to place the Jewish State at disadvantage and in jeopardy - all these events seem strange as coming from the policy of a government controlled by a party which unfalteringly for years before coming into office pledged its unqualified support for a Jewish State in Palestine. Why must we keep on making these Jews suffer more and yet more? Is there no way of making moral Considerations of Sentimentalism triumph over

2. appeasement and deference to economic and financial interests. I am one of those who believe that under Socialist government my Country has still a great role to play in giving moral & spiritual leadership to the World. The present events in Palestine are a severe test of that belief. I have lived among Arabs & I know



3. and like them. The fellaheen has nothing against the Jew and profits by his presence in Palestine. The basis of Arab opposition to Zionism is in the seven Arab feudal states round Palestine - or rather in their leaders who know that Zionism spells education, public health, emancipation of women, popular institutions and all the ingredients of democracy, and this must be warded at all costs! Let me assure you both of my deep concern over the Palestine issue and my hopes for the great future of our country under the Govt. you lead.

Yours sincerely, Robert Craig.

MRS. HYMAN SHAPIRO 1770 ANDREWS AVENUE NEW YORK, NEW YORK

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Jan 7- 48

Mr attlee 7.9. R12/2

Prime Minister.

I take this liberty to write and appeal to you to do what you can for the Jews and Arabs in Palestine.

I am only a proud plain American but when I read the papers, hear the radios of bloodshed, fuss not to being done for no good reason.

The Arabs + Jews have lived peacefully as neighbors, as you I know, the Jews took a swampy, forsaken country, worked by the sweat of their brow and brought out milk + honey. The Jews are not a fighting group, as we love peace, beautiful things - music - flowers and are aggressive, as I once heard a little story - whereas a travelling man came to a small village, he ask the inhabitants - is this a village or town and they said - this is a village, he ask them are there any Jews living here they said oh no - he replied no wonder it is a village., where

our people go the places grow.
I feel Mr Attlee as Prime minister you are the one who can intercede and with your followers in Parliment you can stop all of this, it is my individually thought, that England is to blame, they have never treated us fair, even when Lod Baldfod gave the white paper what was the result. Nothing.
I persume we should not blame such a beautiful country of England, She had all to gain, but my dear Mr Attlee there is a Lod above, he waits long and then repays.
I am sure you have read the old Testament, many pharaohs, Kings Hamans, Hitlers, still we as a nation have survived and we will. Hitler + his nazism did do away with thousands of people, still we are in America, and many other countries.
I feel you can do so much if you are really sincere and to stop this outrageous cruelty.
By doing so, your name will go down in history as a man of intelligence, sincere toward all mankind, regardless of color or creed

and who the blessings will be
estowed upon you and your family
and generations to follow, with the
names of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob
Joseph and Moses, of these days
the memory of our dear and the late
beloved President Franklin D. Roosevelt
will never be forgotten, for he was
a friend of ours and all.
Also you have read, in the days of
Hasmonean, Mattathias son of Johanan
the High Priest and his sons of Greece
rose up against our people of Israel
the strong was delivered into the hands of
our weak and few, for the Lad did
promise Abraham, his seed would
multiply and we have.
We know my dear Mr Attlee, man
is not here to rule forever and death
must come, so why not leave that
name to be a honor to the world,
his family and all.

What will be more to you, after you are gone, thousands, millions, you can't take it with you, your children, grand children may spend it more freely then you have and quarrel as others have done.

A man of your esteem can be either loved, honored or cursed.

I hope you will read my letter carefully- we as labor people need you, you were elected by the people, I am sure you possess all fine qualities. relax while you do, (my family tell me I have a sense of humor.)

I want to wish you a Happy year of 1946- and hope with God's Will, it will bring Peace on earth to all mankind and you will do your utmost and more to try and stop this rioting and bloodshed, for the Jews & Arabs and may God Bless you and your family if you do.

Sincerely
I remain
Mrs Hyman Shapiro.
An American who loves America.

14/2

7.D.

13 Lyndale Avenue
Waterbury, Conn.
U.S.A.
R12/2

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Hon. Wm. Attlee
London, England.

Dear Sir:

We thought you might be interested in seeing a sample of the welling anti-British tide of public opinion surging up even from those from whom you might have expected your strongest support.

We who would have cut off our right arm for you - literally - when you first came into power, are the very ones who feel most betrayed today.

Where is your heart?

Yours now in disgust,

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Dubin

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Mr. Clement R. Attlee
Prime Minister of Britain
10 Downing Street
London, England

Your Excellency:

I am taking herewith the liberty to add to material I mailed to your office some time ago on the subject of Palestine and other related matters. I urge you to give it your earliest consideration; as I feel sure it will prove of value.

Thanking you for your indulgence, I am

Very sincerely yours,

L. H. Hammer

1438 Morris Ave.
New York 56, N. Y.

February 15, 1948

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Mr. Hanson W. Baldwin
N. Y. Times, New York

Dear Mr. Baldwin:

I notice in today's N.Y.Times your article PALESTINE PROBLEM~~S~~-I", which is to have, presumably, a follow up. However, from the tone you have already taken, I gather that you are attempting to interpret the official U. S. and British line with an air of apologia. Apparently, you seek to justify it with such terms as "geopolitics", "lifeline", "oil pipelines", "rear area", &c. You fail to take into consideration—as the U. S. and British policies have failed—the human side, the side of justice and morality. Yet, these latter must always be reckoned with as the IMPONDERABLES in any situation.

By all calculations Germany should have won the last war by its application of superior and overwhelming initial force. But it failed to reckon with the imponderable—the human element, the human spirit.

Here is one imponderable: Some day an impartial mathematician will make a calculation which will prove beyond a doubt that the over 6,000,000 Jews the Germans destroyed in the last war were the imponderables which cost Germany her victory. If, for instance, the Germans had employed for their direct war effort the man-power and energy they had to expend in destroying those over 6,000,000 Jews, might it not have added to just enough "push" to have enabled them to take Moscow, or Leningrad, or Stalingrad—or all three? And if, in addition, they had made use of those over 6,000,000 Jews in life for their war effort (instead of expending effort in destroying them) might it not have spelled complete victory for them?

If you think it is proper for us to forget the over 6,000,000 Jewish dead and deny the remaining living their due, and reward instead the Arabs who sacrificed nothing—just because some people in our State Department or in the British Foreign Office have persuaded themselves (possibly for biased reasons of their own) that it would be for the best interests of either--then let me point out that history has a way of catching up with us for ignoring the human imponderables, for scorning the side of morality and justice from our calculations. History will not let us get away with it and will demand full payment for having let our best friend down—by denying us the helping hand of that friend. Because, in a future emergency, the friend we have let down will be in no position to lend his helping hand.

What, for instance, was the imponderable in our betrayal of Czechoslovakia to appease German madness in 1938? Undoubtedly, we said to ourselves then: The Czechs are far away. What can they do to us? But ponder our price: We not only deprived ourselves of a brave and strategic ally in the war and added to the strength of the enemy—but had we stood up against appeasing evil men, we could have averted the whole tragedy of the second world war and, consequently, the spectre of a third more terrible war would not be here now to haunt us.

Undoubtedly, we say to ourselves now: The Jews are so inconsequential. What can they do about it? We cannot afford to rile Arab sensibilities.

The U. S. and Britain have had no better friend in the last war

than the Jews. Today or in a future emergency we could have had no more reliable strongpoint than a Jewish Palestine in that strategic area. But Britain, who could have helped build up such a strongpoint, chose instead (with U.S. acquiescence) to shut Palestine's gates tight and thus prevent one to three million Jews to escape from the deathly German grip. (They considered a million Jewish lives of less importance than Arab sensibilities.) Today the millions who might have manned that strongpoint are not there. Instead, we still quibble as to whether we ought not to let even that remnant who escaped the slaughter perish with the rest.

Here is the imponderable in your calculations—our calculations: The Arabs did not fight at our side in the last war. If we looked down deep into our unclouded mind we would come up with the conclusion that not only are we not sure of having the Arabs fight at our side in a future emergency, but that we are not even sure that the Arabs will want to fight for themselves in a modern war. Today they are eager to fight the Jews because they are sure it is "safe". (Undoubtedly they have received adequate assurances from certain U.S. and British quarters.) They also see a chance of picking up some easy Jewish loot. Anyhow, what can they lose by adding Palestine to their empire?

Thus are all our calculations worthless, if we fail to take into account these imponderables. It was the imponderable which impelled many Irish to join the ranks of the "hated British" in the last war--the same imponderables which will prove the Arabs a handicap instead of a help in a future emergency.

What with the coming energy in the Atom and the more immediate synthetic oil possibilities—don't you think our critical dependency on Arab oil is greatly overrated—overrated enough as not to be worth the scorning of our best friend in the middle East area?

The Arabs speak loosely of "justice", and never for a moment give thought to the need of justice for others. If the several Arab rulers, who already control a vast empire (in relation to their numbers), can prevent us from doing justice to the pitifully few Jews left after the slaughter in Europe— Well, figure out the imponderables of this situation in the future of history.

Very sincerely yours,

February 13, 1948 L. H. Hammer

The imponderables in a betrayal of the Jews may well parallel the Czechoslovak episode. If the Arabs can browbeat us into yielding Palesthe it will prove but a first instalment in the appeasement game. What will follow? Look at the map of Africa and Asia. Each point separately may not be of much consequence. But I can assure you that Moslem leaders in Africa and Asia are already asking themselves: What next? Soon we may find it a lot less difficult to yield in other areas. And before long we may wake up to find a resuscitated Moslem empire embracing most of Africa and extending to Pakistan and India. (There are Moslems in the Philippines, too.) Should the Christian world involve itself in an atomic war, it is not unlikely that the Moslems will inherit our earth. They will be the only virile people left unscathed—people who even today can be whipped to a path of conquest by religious frenzy.

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EDWARD I. SANDERS
901 WASHINGTON AVENUE
BROOKLYN 25, N.Y.

F.O. 19/2

February 2, 1948

R 16/2

Hon. Clement Atlee
Prime Minister of Great Britain

Dear Sir:

As an American who greatly admires Great Britain, as one who visited her literary shrines and taught her literature for many years, and as one who contributed both spiritual and financial aid during her darkest hours of the Battle of Britain, I appeal to you, sir, to withdraw your policy of "neutrality" in regard to the establishment of a Jewish State in Palestine.

Britain's greatness has always been built upon a base of honor, courage, and fair play. Her part as a senior member of U.N. is a most important one. It is for this reason that dignity and true greatness is expected of her

(over,

in this hour of decision for UN, our best and perhaps last hope for World Peace.

Surely Britain does not in all fairness and decency choose to go counter to UN's decision to establish a Jewish State in Palestine. That would indeed be downright sabotage, and quite inconsistent with British character.

I do not wish to believe that Britain has deliberately chosen a policy that will threaten the integrity and existence of UN.

Sincerely yours
Toward L Sanders

Foreign Dept

E 989 / 1 / 21 138

P.W.

18th February, 1948.

Dear Sir,

I write on behalf of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to acknowledge your letter of 8th February and its enclosure, which is being passed to the Foreign Office.

Yours faithfully,

F. A. Volgyard.

Dr. J.H. Hammer,
438 Morris Avenue,
New York, 56, N.Y.
U.S.A.

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Sir Stafford Cripps
Chancellor of the Exchequer
London, England

Your Excellency:

I am attaching herewith a copy of part of a letter I recently addressed to America's Secretary of State, Gen. George C. Marshall.

You will note that I have used some strong language here and there in relation to Britain's role. I feel, however, I am fully justified. Moreover, I am sure that were the British people fully aware of the facts they would react with vehemence against the policies of their government in respect to its handling of the Jewish side. The tragedy of it all is that it is so unnecessary—that Britain and the civilized world has so little to gain from the destruction of the Jew and so much less to lose from a flourishing and strong Jewish Palestine. It is quite possible that this vicious effort against the Jew might be the diabolical work of some minor officials in the Colonial or Foreign office who bear a personal grudge against Jews generally and who, in their perversity, try to persuade themselves that they are thus working for the interests of Britain.

If the several Arab rulers, who already control a vast empire (in relation to their numbers), can prevent us from doing justice to the pitifully few Jews left after the slaughter in Europe, what will our moral standing be in the future of history? Allowing them to browbeat us into this moral degradation, it will not stop there. Today we will throw at them that remnant of Israel to appease their lust for expansion. Tomorrow we will find that it was but a first instalment in an appeasement game.

I trust that you will find reason to act on this issue on the side of justice.

Sincerely yours,

L. H. Hammer

1404 Morris Ave.
New York 56, N. Y.

February 8, 1949

(First part of letter deals exclusively with Russian problem.)

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It is natural that today's peril of Russia should absorb our chief attention. It is also natural—but highly undesirable and often perilous—that policies to be solved on a permanent basis should be stained by the absorbing but temporary nature of the Russian problem. Even so it is apparent that our attitude or lack of attitude on certain phases of the Palestine problem can be directly linked to our panicky fear of (that dozen men in) Russia.

1. Many unsound and immoral acts have been committed in the name of that fear of Russia. There is danger that this mighty and level-headed nation may hypnotize itself into following Britain in a reckless course which we will most likely, in a more sober moment later, regret.

True, Britain is our natural ally. So far, though, we bore the chief burdens in that alliance. We saved Britain's empire in the first world war. We saved Britain herself in the second. Britain, I admit, is a brave and stanch ally. But Britain is of value to us only when Britain is right.

The British foreign office is not known for high-mindedness and charity—nor even for plain common sense. (Whenever the lust in men for power is great their vision is blurred.) Witness the rapid disintegration of the British empire for lack of perspective. Let us not run the risk of following Britain into an abyss.

2. The Arabs are a case in point. Britain has cast her lot with the Arabs; and to humor them she is eager to arm them and, if necessary, expose every last Jew in Palestine to their mercy. Britain has embraced the Arab cause, presumably because the Arabs are the more numerous. But Britain also has a short memory. A larger number—and well armed--can also become a larger peril.

2. Take the recnt war for which so much treasure and blood was spilled apparently in vain.

a) The Jews had a deep rooted quarrel with the British foreign office for their provocative administration in Palestine. Nevertheless, Jews forgot their grievances when Britain was imperilled. They threw in their lot with them wholeheartedly,unhesitatingly. They eagerly served in the British armed forces when refused a command of their own. The Jews' cause was the allied cause. The Jewish way is the Western way.

b) Egypt, on the other hand, declared her "neutrality"—even while the German legions were already on Egyptian soil,ready to swallow Egypt up. All the other Arab countries had to be kept in line with a watchful eye against many attempts at pro-German coups and other subversion.

4. Is it not plausible to assume,Mr.Secretary, that in building up the strength of the Arab nations deliberately and unnecessarily,we are merely inviting many a future headache? The Arabs had proven themselves untrustworthy in the past. Can we rely on them in the future?

The Arabs' readiness to pay us favor (and our eagerness to pay them court) is not built on the deep rooted love of the Arab peoples for our democratic ways of life or our conception of moral justice. (The Arab masses themselves are chiefly ignorant, impotent and exploited.) What we are courting is a leadership—who are willing to pay us back with a benign smile mainly because it is to their momentary advantage. Can we assure ourselves that these same leaders will not sell out to

a higher bidder in a future emergency when we may not be in a position to do the higher bidding? These people know little of the high moral standards of our world. They have one stock-in-trade—backshish.

5. Britain has had many of her internal emergencies in the recent past. We gave generously to help Britain, and little did we try to exercise our influence in persuading her to render justice to the remnant of a people who need justice most of all. Britain, who needed and received help generously, chose not to be helpful or even magnanimous to a people who had every right to expect that of her.

Consider this, Mr. Secretary: The Jews now in Palestine are there because they eagerly answered the call of Britain who invited them there. Of course, in order to lure them into Palestine Britain had to make extravagant official promises to the Jews. Jews accepted these promises at face value. They had faith in the solemn word of a great power. Unfortunately, they did not know that all Britain wanted was to hostage a half million Jews to serve as a balance against the Arabs, so Britain could hold on under that well-tested formula of "divide and rule". The moment she gathered the desired number of Jewish souls and bodies into the trap, Britain began doing all she could to make further progress of Jews impossible. Now that circumstances force Britain to leave Palestine—instead of a last gesture of magnanimity, Britain does all she can to further undermine the Jewish position. Arming, strengthening and encouraging Arab intransigence, she flings her challenge at the unmarked grave of the late German war lord: "True, old chap. You have blasted six million of them beastly rats. Jolly well splendid. But trust me to finish the job."

Britain was eager to mobilize her Navy to prevent a few thousand wretched Jews from reaching their one land of hope. Britain was willing to employ a hundred thousand of her armed forces to hold the Jews down. But Britain practices "neutrality" in a situation where Jews remain at the short end, to court Arab favor, even willing to fall down on her solemn obligation to keep order in a territory she still controls.

I ask you, Mr. Secretary: Can our nation, who has assumed a legal obligation toward a Jewish home in Palestine by its declared approval and interest in the mandate, and by its present acceptance of partition—aside from all humane and moral considerations—allow Britain, in the name of being our ally, to perpetrate this sadistic last act of desecration of Jewish hopes?

History had taught us that no nation who seeks to gain advantage at the expense of Jewish blood and Jewish martyrdom will hold that advantage for long. Let me also point out that no world where Jews cannot also live will be a world worth living in.

Let us look at the problem with an historic perspective. This great nation, this mighty nation, whose chief greatness and might is its moral fibre—this nation cannot follow the British way of playing with the lives of the last remnant of Israel in order to gain some imagined temporary advantage. Heartlessness and stupidity seldom pays off. The British will find little advantage in it. Not even the glitter of millions of barrels of Arab oil will be able to wash clean a blackened moral fortitude.

Shall we go forward with the slogan: "Billions down the drain for everybody—but not one cent to save the Jew!"

The basic historical question Christendom must ask itself at this late date is: Can Christendom afford to lose its last reduced-to-a-minimum opportunity to redeem itself by granting the last remnant of Israel his last chance to live? Can Christendom afford the alternative—to open the gates wide to a new conquest by Moslems hordes, driven into happy slaughter by religious frenzy?

Many of us insist that a problem must be considered solely from the standpoint of selfish interests, of dollars and cents. Well then: Let us examine the problem from that prosaic standpoint.

Is a Jewish Palestine for or against American interests?

1. It is logical to assume that a Jewish state of some two million souls will have a beneficial effect on the surrounding Arab countries. (Once they assure themselves that we are honestly behind a Jewish homeland and will not tolerate its destruction, they will have no choice but to accept that fact.) Jews bringing with them an higher standard of living, these neighboring countries will be fired with a desire to emulate the Jews. That will force them to gradually lift their own standard of living, to expand their own requirements—which will lead to an expanded commerce in which a goodly segment of American business and even British) could participate.

2. Two million Jews in Palestine would logically come under the influence of six million Jews in the United States. That will automatically be of great value to American influence in general as well as to American commerce in particular.

3. It is too well known that Jews seek peace. Even if they were not so inclined, the large number of Arabs surrounding them would prove an effective deterrent.

4. On the other hand, the two million Jews in a well going Palestine would be a sufficient check to Arab expansionism, now ready to burst its bounds and likely to cause us untold embarrassment if allowed to develop.

History does not wait to check our actions. History moves forward without pause. We ourselves must pause to check our actions.

Having justly put our stamp of approval on partition of Palestine, this nation must put aside considerations of temporary expediency to act for the lasting good.

Jews cannot hope for help from a government who bases its foreign policy on grossly selfish and often viciously heartless considerations. (Was it the growing fear, the certainty that our own U. S. would be the chief beneficiary from a Jewish Palestine which angered the British to a change of policy?) Nor dare Jews rely on a government maddened with its own lust for power (Russia) but Jews have every right to expect a helping hand from a government whose traditions, whose strength is built on its high sense of justice.

Who knows: Could we cast out the beam of the fear of Russia from our eyes and view a Jewish Palestine with the clear eyes of the future--may we not find that a little help to the Jewish cause now would prove of vaster permanent value than some of our hastily contrived multi-million measures in exigencies permitting us but little time for weighing and digesting?

(Mailed to Sec. of State Marshall on January 19, 1948)

Willow Farm,
Silfield,
Wymondham,
Norfolk.

E143

27th February 1948.

Sir,

I am distressed beyond measure at the calamities befalling the Jews and their Country, especially as the promise given to them in 1917 has never been fulfilled.

I therefore feel compelled to endeavour to draw your attention to the seriousness of the situation, which will continue to deteriorate until the whole world is engulfed in a conflict that will surpass in magnitude and terribleness, all that the world has been forced to witness.

Has the British Government forgotten those promises that were given in such good faith; and while giving independence to all others, deny it to those people who have suffered far more than any Nation. Whose lives hang in doubt, and have none assurance of their lives.

Has the British Government so soon forgotten the terrible persecutions inflicted upon them by Germany, and in this late hour of the Worlds history going to be their enemy and not their friend, bar from them their right by promise, banish them to an island imprisonment, simply because they have grown weary of waiting.

Surely the British Government must realize by the disasters which have befallen the Nations in the past, the truth of those words which have been written by the finger of God; "I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee" (Genesis 12:3); "He that toucheth you toucheth the apple of my (Gods) eye" (Zechariah 2:8).

Concerning Jesus it was written just before his death, "The Son of man goeth as it is written of him: but woe to that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed", and woe to those who in any age, or in any country disobey His benevolent commands, and attempt to touch His anointed and to do His prophets harm. For thus saith the Lord of hosts "I am jealous for Jerusalem and for Zion with a great jealousy, And I am sore ~~displeased~~ displeased with the heathen (Nations) that are at ease: for I was a little displeased (with the Jews for their wickedness) and they (the Nations) helped forward the affliction. Therefore thus saith the Lord; I am returned to Jerusalem with mercies:

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[redacted] my house shall be built in it, My Cities through prosperity shall yet be spread abroad,- andI the Lord shall yet comfort Zion, and shall yet choose Jerusalem" (Zechariah 14:17).

The time is now hard upon us for the "Day of the Lords vengeance, and the year of recompences for the controversy of Zion" (Isaiah 34:8); for it is written, "When I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem, I will also gather all nations and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the nations round about. And will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land. Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem. And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut to pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it" (Joel 3:1,2,12; Zechariah 12:2,3).

The words of God are true never faltering, no matter what men might strive to do to the contrary. Is it not written concerning His people, "I will even gather you from the people and assemble you out of the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel" (Ezekiel 11:17); "I will feed thee upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country. As a Shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered" (Ezekiel 34:12,13); "I will gather thee from the East, and from the West, I will say to the North give up; and to the South, keep not back: bring my Sons from far, and my Daughters from the ends of the earth" (Isaiah 43:5,6); "And in that day there shall be no more the Canaanite (Arab) in the house of the Lord of hosts" (Zechariah 14:21).

As an Englishman, I appeal to you to consider these words of truth, And the position in which you, and the Cabinet stand in Gods sight; That while the opportunity remains with you, fulfil the promise so long delayed, and now almost forgotten, reverse the White Paper of 1939, become like Cyrus of old and give forth the commandment to the Jews to return to Palestine, "To restore and to build Jerusalem" that they might be at rest, and you receive a blessing from God for being their protector, even those who "fear day and night" who for ages and generations

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F/D 1c

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February 24, 1948

From: Richard I. Green
100 Island Home Pike
Knoxville, Tennessee, U.S.A.

To: Clement Atlee
Prime Minister Of England

Dear Mr. Atlee,

This is just to let you know that England is doomed unless she helps the Jews in their fight for Palestine. Please do not think that this is just an idle threat or a crackpot theory. I have studied history, ancient and recent. I have studied pertinent parts of the bible. I have delved into the theory of cycles and the predictions of Nostradamus, which (perhaps to your own knowledge) have proven amazingly accurate.

If you have that spark of greatness which is necessary for good leadership, if you wish to save England from the fate that befell Germany, the Roman Empire, Czarist Russia and Imperial Spain, you will heed my warning-- you will help these people return to the land that is rightfully theirs.

If you do not, you and England-- the England of today and the England of Tomorrow will suffer.

Very sincerely yours,

R. I. Green

Richard I. Green

Feb 26, 1948 146

Hon. Ernest Bevin,
Foreign Secretary
London, England

Eastern Dept

E989/1/R1

-5 MAR 1948

INDEXED

Dear Sir:

By your headstrong actions in Palestine you have lost much of your friends in America and throughout the world, and have gained for England the fame of being, next to Russia, the most hated and despised people of the English race.

You were elected on a platform calling for the very

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opposite attitude toward
the people of Palestine.
You stand, with Hitler,
Judas, and others of that ilk,
as one of the great betrayers
of mankind. You disgust all decent
people of America.

Very truly yours,

Jerome Klein
1446 Osmond Ave
Camden, N. J.
U.S.A.

148

24 Cavendish Road.
Kersal.
Manchester.
Feb. 24th/48.

Dear Sir.

I enclose a letter from yesterday's News Chronicle - if the facts are as stated in the letter, it seems very unfair to weigh the scales against the Jews as regards armaments, after partition has been decided upon by the United Nations. One fears it will lead to a wholesale massacre of the Jews, as the writer suggests — a ghastly end to our mandate in Palestine! Yours sincerely

F. Horton.

112/1/21

989 / 21

149 E

Jerusalem, le 9 Mars 1948.

Secretary of «LA DERNIÈRE CHARITÉ»
Mr. W. SEDLAK, Jerusalem P. O. B. 1356

P A L E S T I N E et sa S O L U T I O N

Tous les Nations doivent comprendre ceci :

ENCLOSED

Le peuple juif entier a ses droits avoir sa l'independance en Palestine.

Les Etats Arabes ne sont pas en droit de refuser ce droit. - ils ne sont pas en droit de lutter pour la Palestine.

Les arabes palestinien ont que le droit provisoire sur elle. Ils sont au nombre environ un million et demi, tandis le peuple juif qui a le droit definitive sur la Palestine sont au nombre plus que IO millions - alors, une majorité ecrasahte. Que le peuple juif entier, n'est pas en Palestine qu'importe ! ils sont en voyage. O B L G A T O I R E M E N T tous les peuples doivent être independants, même contre la volonté du Peuple.

L'independance definitive peut être accorder à un peuple, si celle-ci rentre chez eux. Sous cette condition, en attendant le Conseil de Securité peut accorder "l'independance provisoire", car le droit pour une independance definitive demande la présence du peuple entier /au moin 95% /. Puisque l'independance au peuple juif doit être accorder obligatoirement ils doivent retourner chez eux et participer " t o u s " à la Constitution National et à la formation de leur Gouvernement definitive. Comme ils ne peuvent pas retourner chez eux dans une semaine ou deux, il sera accorder à eux la formation du Gouvernement Provisoire, qui aidera à la venue de son peuple e n t i e r en Palestine, sous la protection internationale D'un protection national n'en parlons pas ! cela n'a pas de valeur c'est la politique. La protection internationale n'a pas une politique. Elle a pour son but assurer la sécurité et l'âge d'or à tous les Peuples du monde entier.

La formation d'une Milice national pour un peuple qui doit avoir sa l'independance, si elle est vraiment nécessaire, elle peut être accorder, Mais, elle sera armée uniquement par l'armée internationale et sera aussi sous ses directives; elle sera tolerer

comme un "secours provisoire" à la mission de secusité de l'armée internationale et limité à l'interieur du pays surtout.
Nous voyons que, les arabes Palestinien n'ont aucun droit stable sur la Palestine; ils n'ont jamais eut un gouvernement, tandis les juifs oui ! Les arabes Palestinien sont qu'un fragment du peuple arabe en dehors de la Palestine, divisés en plusieurs Etats, qui peuvent les absorbés. Mais il n'existe pas un seul Etat Juif pour absorbes les juifs vivant en Palestine .

Alors, soyons juste et agissont en justice et empêchons les Etats Arabes de conquerir la Palestine, qui n'est pas le berceau du Islamisme mais, du Christianisme

Christianisme doit être purifié et respecter.

Jamais la Palestine ne pourra pas devenir une pays islamique ni rester sous le joug des musulmans. Si la Mecque est destiné d'être islamique, la Palestine est destiné d'être Chretien.
On respecte la Mecque; les chretiens ne sont pas là-bas. Les chretiens, la majorité doit tolerer la présence des musulmans dans une Pays qui est le berceau du Christianisme ? - Oui, sous une condition devenir chretiens, mais, les chretiens ne pouvont jamais devenir les musulmans pour redevenir ensuite les chretiens ? Soyons ainsi justes et fairont la separation. Les arabes, qui ne pouvont pas devenir chretiens, ne pouvont pas vivre en Palestine, que, dans les pays musulmans; ensuite il est possible de vivre en Paix.
L'ordre est trés nécessaire et urgent.
Actuellement, que faire en vitesse ? Former l'armée internationale, occuper les frontières Palestinien et desarmés tous les arabes en Palestine. Pour la facilité de formé une armée internationale il est fréferable pour que l'office internat. la "Dernière Charité" soit chargé de former le Gouvernement International.
Il n'y a pas d'autres solution possible et elle est la clef de consolation et de tout.

Dépechons nous s'il vous plait, le temps presse. -

Au service de la Justice et de la Paix
«LA DERNIÈRE CHARITÉ»
Preparation office of the «Golden Era»
—ADDRESS for MIDDLE-EAST—
Secretary of «LA DERNIÈRE CHARITÉ»
Mr. W. SEDLAR, Jerusalem P. O. B. 1356

151

Jerusalem, le 9 Mars 1948.

★ ★ ★

Secretary of «LA DERNIÈRE CHARITÈ»
Mr. W. SEDLAR, Jerusalem P. O. B. 1356

Tel.: 3204 / William /

American Church

LA SITUATION S'AGRAVE PARTOUT PAR L'EXPANSION DU COMMUNISME.

L A R E M E D E .

U N I Q U E M E N T

l'Office internarional " La Dernière Charité " et sa International Police "SECURITY" à Jerusalem, peuvent sauvés les Etats européen et le Monde entier devant l'expansion du communisme.

NECESSAIREMENT, il faut doublé tout les Gouvernements par mes deux offices.

Mettez-vous en contact avec les Secretariat de la "Dernière Charité" pour se sauvés. - Si vous negligez, vous rentré en contact avec du Communisme.

Embrassez plutôt la Paix que la Guerre.

Negligence est poursuivable devant la Justice Internationale. Veuillez prendre la décision dans ce sens et soyez, pour qu'on donne au Chef de la Pol. International "Security" à Jerusalem le pouvoir nécessaire pour assurer la securité partout, où le besoin se présente. Une force national n'a plus de valeur, soyez pour la formation du Gouvernement International.

Au service de tous les peuples libres ou dependants, au service de la Justice de la Paix et de la Liberté :

«LA DERNIÈRE CHARITÉ»
Preparation office of the «Golden Era»
—ADDRESS for MIDDLE-EAST—
Secretary of «LA DERNIÈRE CHARITÈ»
Mr. W. SEDLAR, Jerusalem P. O. B. 1356

INTERNATIONAL POLICE «SECURITY»

N.D. Daily

Los angeles 152

3/10/48

Foreign Ministry

advertisements like this are being published in all the newspapers in the principal cities of the U.S.A. and Bevin atlee and other British statesmen are daily being hissed in the cinemas theatres while the audience is viewing the news-reels. not very good publicity for you fellows.

World citizen

WORLD'S LARGEST HOTEL CHAIN — COAST TO COAST

153

MILNER HOTEL

BROADWAY AT THIRTY-FIRST
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

March 21, 1948

ARIZONA
Phoenix

ARKANSAS
Fort Smith

CALIFORNIA
Los Angeles
San Francisco
Sacramento
Stockton

COLORADO
Denver
Pueblo

CONNECTICUT
Hartford
New Haven

FLORIDA
Jacksonville

GEORGIA
Macon

ILLINOIS
Aurora
Chicago
Danville
Kewanee
Peoria
Quincy

IOWA
Cedar Rapids
Des Moines
Marshalltown
Ottumwa
Sioux City
Waterloo

IDAHO
Boise

INDIANA
Anderson
Evansville
Fort Wayne
Indianapolis
Michigan City
South Bend
Terre Haute

KANSAS
Coffeyville

KENTUCKY
Ashland
Bowling Green
Louisville

MARYLAND
Baltimore

MASSACHUSETTS
Boston
Springfield

MICHIGAN
Ann Arbor
Detroit
Flint
Grand Rapids
Jackson
Kalamazoo
Owosso

MISSISSIPPI
Hattiesburg
Vicksburg

MINNESOTA
Duluth
Minneapolis

MISSOURI
Kansas City
Sedalia
Springfield
St. Louis

NEBRASKA
Lincoln
Omaha

NEW MEXICO
Albuquerque

NEW JERSEY
Camden
Trenton

NEW YORK
Amsterdam
Buffalo
New York City
Niagara Falls
Rochester
Syracuse

NORTH CAROLINA
Asheville
Salisbury

NORTH DAKOTA
Fargo

OKLAHOMA
Muskogee
Oklahoma City
Tulsa

OREGON
Portland

OHIO
Akron
Canton
Cincinnati
Cleveland
Columbus
Dayton
Lancaster
Lima
Marion
Middleton
Portsmouth
Sandusky
Toledo

PENNSYLVANIA
Allentown
Altoona
Erie
Harrisburg
Hazelton
Lancaster
Norristown
Philadelphia
Reading
Scranton
Sunbury
Wilkes-Barre
York

RHODE ISLAND
Providence

TENNESSEE
Chattanooga
Knoxville

TEXAS
Amarillo
Beaumont
El Paso
Fort Worth
Galveston
Houston
San Angelo
San Antonio
Waco

UTAH
Salt Lake City
Ogden

VIRGINIA
Norfolk
Petersburg
Roanoke

WASHINGTON
Spokane
Wenatchee

WEST VIRGINIA
Fairmount
Huntington
Wheeling

WISCONSIN
Green Bay
Janesville
La Crosse
Oshkosh

Honorable Ernest Bevin
Secretary of Labor
House of Parliament
London, England

INDEXED

Dear Sir;

I take my pen in hand to make an appeal, not only for the Jews of Palestine who happen to be my co-religionists but also for the Arabs of Palestine.

It goes without saying that, should Great Britain withdraw her troops at an early date from Palestine, chaos would be created and much innocent blood would be spilt. Therefor I ask that your troops be withdrawn at a later date, or until such time the Special Committee of the United Nations arrives at some plan which is mutually beneficial to both the Arabs and the Jews.

I my voluntary work now in its sixteenth year, to help the laboring classes all over the world, only partially described in my dramatic composition, Isolated from Within, copy of which you now have on hand is of any consequence, then I do expect the courtesy of having my earnest appeal be given serious thought.

Thanking you for past courtesies to me, I am

Very sincerely yours,
Joseph Freeling

41

E

E 1041
24 JAN 1948

154

1948 PALESTINE

Registry Number E 1041/1/31

TELEGRAM FROM

Lord Inverchapel

No. Washington

Dated 37 Int

Received in Registry 22 Jan
24 "

Medical supplies for Palestine.

Refers to Washington tel. 302 (E557/1/31). H.C. has no objection to despatch of dry Blood Plasma and [illegible] collected by American Red Magen David for Palestine. [illegible] on U.S. Army aircraft. [illegible] aircraft [illegible] the necessary. Asks early reply.

Last Paper.

990

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

Mathieson C.O.
Overseas Relief Off.
M.I.3a
M.O.4
Admty
A.M.
Jan 27

(Action completed.) 18/2

(Index.) 9/4/48

Next Paper.

1059

(*Minutes.*)

The C.O. say that Jerusalem have answered this; I have asked for the ref.

Now see E859

H.B. 17/2

155

En clair

DEPARTMENTAL

FROM WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN OFFICE

E 1047

Lord Inverchapel
No. 374
23rd January, 1948

D. 7.21 p.m. 23rd January, 1948
R.12.40 a.m. 24th January, 1948

24 JAN 1948

Repeated to Cairo and Jerusalem.

IMMEDIATE

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 374 of 23rd January repeated to Cairo and Jerusalem.

My telegram No. 13 to Jerusalem.

High Commissioner Jerusalem has informed us that he has no objection to despatch of dry blood plasma and adoption needles to Palestine by American Red Mogen Dovid for Palestine.

2. Latter now inform us that they hope to make arrangements to fly these supplies to Cairo in United States army aircraft on 28th January and ask whether in that event British aircraft could be made available to fly them from Cairo to Palestine on the following day. They would be prepared to delay despatch from here for a day or two if connexion were not possible in Cairo on 29th January but would be shortly thereafter as United States aircraft goes to Cairo daily. Maximum weight of consignment would not exceed two thousand pounds.

3. I should be grateful for early reply.

888

24 JAN 1948

42

E

PALESTINE

156

E 1059

26 JAN 1948

Registry Number E1059/1/31.

TELEGRAM FROM

Mr Howard

No. Madrid

Dated 27.

Received in Registry 22 Jan

26 –

Alleged death of Spanish Vice Consul.

It has been [illegible] from the Foreign [illegible] that the death of Spanish vice consul in [illegible] was due to action of British authorities [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of the guilty [illegible] [illegible] 1942. [illegible] a letter.

Last Paper.

~~1058~~ 1041

References.

(Minutes.)

Copy CO.

Western Dept. 30/1

J. S. Bennett
Jan 26

LP
26/1

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Jan 27

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

Next Paper.

(E 1112).

30471 F.O.P.

Code R

DEPARTMENTAL

FROM MADRID TO FOREIGN OFFICE

E 1057

Mr. Howard
No. 27
22nd January, 1948.

D. 7.29 p.m. 23rd January, 1948.
R. 8.7 p.m. 23rd January, 1948.

26 JAN 1948

RESTRICTED

A note has been received from Ministry of Foreign Affairs protesting that death of Spanish Vice-Consul in bomb outrage in Jerusalem was due to failure of British authorities in Palestine to take necessary precautions. The note claims indemnification and punishment of the guilty and bases its case on our claims arising from Tangier incidents in 1942.

3. Translation with our comments follow by bag.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat]

F F F F

44

1948

E

PALESTINE

158

E 1173

28 JAN 1948

Registry Number: E 1173/1/31

FROM: V. Personal Legation to the Holy See, Rome

No.

Dated

Received in Registry: 5 4/1/48, 19 Jan, 28

Protection of Holy Places in Palestine

Italian Press quoted Athens paper "Kathemerini" as saying today that Cardinal Secretary of State of the Vatican City, has asked France, Belgium and several Latin American countries whether they would be prepared to despatch a small military contingent to Palestine to protect Holy Places. Vatican deny statement.

Last Paper.

1112

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

Italian Section

H.73. 1/2

The "Rome Daily American", for obvious reasons, is very pro-Jewish.

I sympathise with the Vatican interest in the future of the Holy Places.

D.I. Scott

3/2

H.73. 4/2

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
2 Feb 48	9/Jan/48

Next Paper.

1304

29470 F.O.P.

(0

British Legation to the Holy See,

ROME.

159

54/1/48

19th January 1948.

E 1173

28 JAN 1948

Dear Burrows,

On January 16th the "Rome American" (an English language daily published here), the "Giornale d'Italia" and, for all I know, other press organs in Italy, quoted a report from the Hebrew daily newspaper "Haboker" of January 15th, according to which: "It was learned today in Jerusalem consular quarters that the Cardinal Secretary of State in the Vatican City has asked France, Canada and several Latin-American countries whether they would be prepared to dispatch to Palestine small military contingents for the protection of holy places".

There is of course at present no Cardinal Secretary of State, and it seemed to me anyhow most improbable that the Holy See would have taken the action reported. As, however, a local press Agency had reported (quite baselessly) that I had sought an audience from the Pope in this very connexion, I took the opportunity to broach the question when I called on Mgr. Tardini, Under-Secretary for Extraordinary Affairs, on another matter on January 17th.

As I expected, he said at once that the story was entirely untrue, and he added that not only was it untrue, but that it was quite unthinkable that the Vatican could ever have conceived of taking the steps alleged. I understood him to say that the Vatican either had issued or intended to issue a denial: if they have, I have been unable to trace it.

B.A.B. Burrows, Esq.,
Eastern Department,
Foreign Office.

The /

160

The Vatican are naturally concerned about the situation in Palestine and about the fate of the Holy Places after our withdrawal: Mgr. Montini, Under-Secretary for Ordinary Affairs, told me some time ago that the Vatican preferred, from this point of view and that of Catholic interests generally, that a third Power, neither Jew nor Arab, should have control in the Holy Land, but he admitted that there was nothing the Church could do in present circumstances, to influence the trend of events in that direction.

Yours ever
Victor Perowne

45

1948

E

PALESTINE

161

E 130

10 JAN 1948

Registry Number E1304/1/31

FROM Hungarian Legation

No. 436/1948

Dated

Received in Registry 20 Jan 30

"Foundation Fund"

a Hungarian citizen and his wife both killed by Germans deposited the estate for the purpose of founding a hospital. Act XXVI according to Hungarian laws the estate is a "Foundation fund" character, and can be transferred to a foreign country pending willingness of respective country. Govt. to issue some regulations for Foundation funds assigned for charity. Refer FO. minute. re Palestine

Last Paper.

1175

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

ack.

Jan 30

24 F.O.

Feb. 5

Dft. Hungarian Legation

Grant 23.

(Minutes.)

Copy CO & Tm.

What reply?

E A Department JB Jan 31

In P.P. Book & Picture 190 Saving 19/2

Bu. Apr 1 JB Feb. 21

JB Apr 1.

In P.P. Picture Ltd 924 10/4

S. Dept. Draft JB Apr. 16

(Action completed.)

Feb 4

(Index.)

9/11/48

Next Paper.

1347

29470 F.O.P.

HUNGARIAN LEGATION
MAGYAR KÖVETSÉG

436/1948

46, EATON PLACE,
S.W. 1.
SLOANE 4048.

162

E 130

30 JAN 1948

The Hungarian Legation present their compliments to His Majesty's Foreign Office and beg leave to request their kind information in the following matter.

A Hungarian citizen and his wife - both killed by the Germans at Auschwitz - disposed of their estate for the purpose of founding a hospital in Tel-Aviv (Palestine) in memory of their fallen son. According to Hungarian law this estate is of "foundation fund" character and furthermore it can be transferred to a foreign country pending the willingness of the respective country's government to secure the same consideration for foundation funds assigned for Hungary.

The Hungarian Legation would therefore very much appreciate the views of His Majesty's Foreign Office concerning the preparedness of the Palestine Government to adhere to the rule reffered to above.

London, 20th January 1948.

MAGYAR KÖZTÁRSASÁG KÖVETSÉGE * LONDON * THE HUNGARIAN REPUBLIC

His Majesty's Foreign Office,
Whitehall.

15

Saving. 75009/1070/48 INWARD E

163

From the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

To the Officer Administering the Government of PALESTINE

Date 19 February, 1948

No. 190 **Saving.**

1304 / 31

I enclose for your observations a copy of a note from the Hungarian Legation to the Foreign Office regarding the estate of a Hungarian citizen and his wife disposed of for the purpose of founding a hospital in Tel-Aviv.

SECRET.

Colonial ... 75009/1070/48

Wh... ...Colonial Office

19 - 2 - 48

E/1304/1/31

COLONIAL OFFICE TELEGRAM

E 164

1304 / 11

En Clair

FROM PALESTINE (Gen Sir A.Cunningham)

D. 10th April, 1948.
R. 10th " " 15.30 hrs.

INDEXED

No.924

Your savingram No.190.

Funds bequeathed by Hungarian citizen for founding a hospital in Tel-Aviv.

There is reciprocity of treatment in that, under existing Exchange Control regulations, the estate of a deceased resident of Palestine is transferable to his non-resident heirs or the non-resident beneficiaries under his will in their country of residence.

2. No enquiry is made as to the purpose of the legacy and therefore, in the circumstances envisaged by the Hungarian Legation, funds bequeathed from founding a hospital would be transferable to a beneficiary in Hungary.

3. This reciprocity of treatment vis-a-vis the Hungarian Government applies of course only up to the termination of the Mandate. Therefore, the matter would be one for a successor authority and you may wish to refer this aspect of the matter to the United Nations Commission.

Colonial Office reference No. 75009/1070/48

With the compliments of the U.S. of S.
Colonial Office.

Date 1 [illegible] 1948

Reference E 1504/1/31
1304

+1

Registry 1304
No. E. ~~1034~~/1/31.

23 ~~16~~th April, 1948. 22/17 165

Top Secret
~~Secret~~
~~Confidential~~
~~Restricted~~
Open

J.G.S.B.

Draft. MEMORANDUM

Hungarian Legation.

From: The Foreign Office.

The Foreign Office present their compliments to the Hungarian Legation and have the honour to refer to their Memorandum, No.436/1948 of January 20th regarding the disposal of an estate by two Hungarian citizens for the purpose of founding a hospital at Tel-Aviv.

In regard to the enquiry made by the Hungarian Legation, the Government of Palestine state that there is reciprocity of treatment in Palestine since, under existing exchange control regulations, the estate of a deceased resident of Palestine is transferable to his non-resident heirs or the non-resident beneficiaries under his will in their country of residence. No enquiry is made as to the purpose of the legacy and therefore, in the circumstances envisaged by the Hungarian Legation, funds bequeathed for founding a hospital would be transferable to a beneficiary in Hungary.

This reciprocity of treatment vis-a-vis the Hungarian Government can only be said to apply until the termination of the British Mandate. Thereafter the matter would be one for the successor authority in Palestine.

Foreign Office, S.W.1. JB Apr. 21

Copy to Office

S. Dept. first JB Apr. 16

22/IV/48
23/IV/48

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(33654) Wt.14606/147 75,000 6/47 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

OUT FILE

No. [illegible] 1304/1/31.

The Foreign Office present their compliments to the Hungarian Legation and have the honour to refer to their Memorandum, No.433/1948 of 20th January regarding the disposal of an estate by the Hungarian citizen for the purpose of founding a hospital in Tel-Aviv.

In reply to the enquiry made by the Hungarian Legation, the Government of Palestine state that there is reciprocity of treatment in Palestine since, under existing exchange control regulations, the estate of a deceased resident of Palestine is transferable to his non-resident heirs or the non-resident beneficiaries under a will in their country of residence. [illegible] the [illegible] of the legacy in question, in the circumstances envisaged by the Hungarian Legation, funds [illegible] for the founding of a hospital would be transferable to a beneficiary in Hungary.

This reciprocity of treatment vis-a-vis the Hungarian Government can only be said to hold until the termination of the British Mandate. Thereafter the matter would be one for the successor authority in Palestine.

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

23rd April, 1948.

46

E

167

4/12

E 1347

1948

PALESTINE

30 JAN 1948

Registry Number } E1347/1/31

FROM Mrs H. Hempseed

No. Dunfermline

Dated

Received in Registry } Jan 30.

Withdrawal of British troops from Palestine

Petition signed by Mrs Hempseed and others urging the immediate withdrawal of British soldiers and conscripts from Palestine.

Last Paper.

1304

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Dft. Mrs H. Hempseed Dunfermline from Mr Beith. Feb. 2

Q.P.P. ① ② ③ ④ standard Reply Feb. 9th

Q.P.P. ⑤ ⑥ standard Reply Feb 10th

P.T.O.

(Action completed.) GEM 9/

(Index.) 9/4/48

Next Paper.

1410

(Minutes.)

1) Graham Graham Scott

2) Mrs. M. Brown

3) R. Bamforth

4) G. K. Renfrew

JB Feb. 6

5) Gilbert Schofield

6) Hilda Shrigley

7) Graham Graham Scott

JB Feb. 18

8) Mrs J M Harries

JB Feb. 25

9) Mrs. May W. James.

10) Catherine Hackham

JB Mar. 8

11) V. L. Gardiner

12) Hilda Main. ackd

13) W. Harris.

JB Mar 12

P.T.O

29470 F.O.P.

14) C.T. Gooding (Hereford (City) Labour Party).

15) J.M. Shaw (Electrical Trades Union) Glasgow.

HB. 22/3

16) Mr Graham Scott.

HB Mar. 24

17) Mrs. Margaret Alexander

HBorer 25

18) Gilbert Schofield

19) M Lindsay

20) Graham Graham Scott

21)

22) F. Keenan.

Acknge 18 & 19
HB Mar 15th

23) R. Grace Hall & Co.

24) M. Cooper

Usual replies
HB Apr. 2

25) Harry Eckeridge HB Apr. 10

(8) Standard Reply
27 Feb

9. P.P. (9) & (10)
Standard reply
Mar 10

9. P.P. (12)
Ack 11 Mar 11th

9. P.P. (13)
Standard Reply
Mar 16th

9. P.P. (17)
Standard reply.
Mar 31

(18) (19)
Ack. 1/4

(23) (24)
Standard Replies.
Apr 9

Please sign our Petition for withdrawal of our Soldiers and Conscripts from Palestine now!

168

E 1347

Eastern Dept. P.O. Kinross 24/1

NAMES	ADDRESS
	30 JAN 1948
~~Mrs~~ H. Hempseed	12 Leys Park Rd. Dunfermline
Mrs H. Knight	24 Leys Park Rd. Dunfermline
Margaret Foley	24 Leys Park Rd Dunfermline
T. Foley	24 Leys Park Rd Dunfermline
Mrs Young	24 Leys Park Rd Dunfermline
Mrs D Fotheringham	36A Leys Park Rd Dunfermline
Mr D. Fotheringham	36A Leys Park Rd Dunfermline
Mr. John Geddes	Glebe Place, Kirkton, Burntisland
Miss E. Dick	5, Wardlaw Crescent. Dunfermline.
Mr R. G. Inglis	40. East Port Dunfermline. Fife
Mrs. Shiels	8 Raeburn Place Edinburgh
MRS H BLACKMAN	RAFFIN PEWSEY WILTS
Mr J Miles	5 Martinsell Cottages Care Marlborough Wilts
Mr L Lay	Martinsell Cottages Care Marlborough Wilts
MRS R SCOTT	13 YUKE STREET DUNFERMLINE
MISS R Bower	Yuke Street Dunfermline Fife
MRS P Boyd	36A Leys Park Rd Dunfermline Fife Scotland
Mr W. Taylor	39. Wilson St Nth Sunderland Co Durham
Mr R. Tindale	27. Gilesgate Durham England

Please sign our Petition for withdrawal of our Soldiers and Conscripts from Palestine now!

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NAMES	ADDRESS
David Lawson	30 Leys Park Rd Dunfermline
J. Thomson.	24 Leys Park Rd Dunfermline.
Mrs J. Thomson	24 Leys Park Rd Dunfermline
Thos J. Paton	26 Leys Park. Dunfermline
Mrs M Paton	26 Leys Park Rd Dunfermline
Mrs J. Paton	26 Leys Park Rd. Dunfermline
Mrs E. O'Gorman	58 Pittencrieff St. Dunfermline.
Mrs E. Macfarlane	60 Pittencrieff St. Dunfermline
Mr. R. Blackie	22 Leys Park [illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
Charles Seaman	5 Leys Park Terrace Dunfermline
John Cook	43 Holmes St Dunfermline
John Dickson	Douglas Hotel
P. Boyle	12 Chapple Street
[illegible]	123 [illegible] St. Dunfermline.
A. Robertson	119 South Glencraig
R. [illegible]	[illegible]
J. Miller	15 Lake-Ln-Rank

Please sign our Petition for withdrawal of our Soldiers and Conscripts from Palestine now!

170

NAMES	ADDRESS
Mrs Barclay	41. Rolland Street. Dunfermline
Mrs. R. Blackie Jun.	36. A. Leys. Park Rd. Dunfermline.
Mr R G. R. Blackie	36A Leys Park Rd. Dunfermline
Mrs B. L. Linlayson	18 Leys Park Rd. Dunfermline
Mrs R. Linlayson	18 Leys Park Rd. Dunfermline
Mrs Wm Watson	16 Leys Park Rd. Dunfermline
Miss G. Martin	Buckreddon House, Shiremming
Miss M. Frater	83, Orchard St. Galston.
Mrs A Martin	16 Leys Park Rd Dunfermline
Mr J Martin	16 Leys Park Rd. Dunfermline.
Mrs R B Blackie	22 Leys Park Rd Dunfermline
Mrs R SCOT	13 TUKE STREET DUNFERMLINE
Mrs V. Millar -	14 Leys Park Rd. Dunfermline
Mrs A. J. Stewart	28, Leys P.K. Rd. Dunfermline
Mrs A. Hunter	20 Leys P.K. Rd. Dunfermline
Mrs T. B. Allan	32 Leys Park Rd. Dunfermline
Mr T B. Allan	32 Leys Park Rd Dunfermline
Mr Andrew Hunter	20 Leys Park Road Dunfermline

Registry
No.

~~Top Secret.~~
~~Secret.~~
~~Confidential.~~
~~Restricted.~~
Open ✓

JGSB

Draft.

Mrs.H. Hempseed,
12, Leys Park Rd.,
DUNFERMLINE,
Fife.

from
Mr Beith
~~[illegible]~~
~~[illegible]~~

CMcA 27/1
Private Sec.
first
J.N.S. Beith
Jan 27

30/1
2/2

171 E

[illegible] January, 1948.

Madam,

[illegible] Mr. Secretary Bevin ~~has instructed me to~~ acknowledge the receipt of the petition which was forwarded to him by yourself and a number of other signatories, urging the immediate withdrawal of British soldiers ~~and conscripts~~ from Palestine.

Mr. Bevin wishes me to ~~assure~~ inform you that, as has already been made clear in a number of official statements in the House of Commons, the policy of H.M.G. is to withdraw British troops from Palestine by the earliest practicable date and in any case by August 1st of this year. ~~Everything possible is already being done to accelerate the rate of withdrawal.~~

I am, etc.

BABS
28.1

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(33654) Wt.14690/147 75,000 6/47 A.&E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

172

1347/1/31.

. .1

Sn[illegible], 194[illegible].

Madam,

I am directed by Mr. Attlee to acknowledge the receipt of the petition which was forwarded to him by yourself and a number of other signatories, urging the immediate withdrawal of British soldiers and conscripts from Palestine.

2. Mr. Attlee wishes me to inform you that, as has already been made clear in a number of official statements in the House of Commons, the policy of His Majesty's Government is to withdraw British troops from Palestine by the earliest practicable date and in any case by the autumn of this year.

I am,
Madam,
Your obedient servant

[illegible]
12, [illegible],
Dunfermline,
Fifeshire.

Eastern Dept

January 30/1948/11 Devonshire Place

CMCA 2/2

Eastbourne

5 FEB 1948

Dear Sir

I am appealing to you as Minister for Foreign affairs. 173

Every time I take up the paper ((including the Times) to find if there is any comforting "news" I get a shock & disappointment when I find that two more British soldiers or policemen have been assassinated by Jews or Arabs

& it makes my blood
boil over with rage
& indignation -
Cannot you (as Foreign
Secretary or Father Minister)
put a stop to these
vile acts? -
We are the only nation
who do more for the
Jews & Arabs than any other
we try to please the latter
by limiting the number
of Jews to come into
Palestine & we get as a
reward for their shooting
of our men -

& depriving their families 174
of their means of support!
The arabs, have in the
past been our friends
yet they appear blind,
adopting the same role
& policy.

Are we & are we not
at war with these people?
will you at once do you
best to stop all this? &
bring the British away
from these dangers -
for have the power
& you will earn the
everlasting gratitude
of the British
& friends & relations

my sons & I have been
in both wars -
You are the only man
who can, so I earnestly
hope you will do it -

Yours faithfully

Abraham Graham Scott
surgeon

To the Right-Honourable
Ernest Bevin
Foreign Secretary

1. Ack. 24.1.48

Eastern Dept.

p.w. 23/1

175

71 Clyde Street
Clydebank
20-1-48

2 FEB 48

Mr. E. Bevin

Dear Sir,

The women of Clydebank + district demand an early mandate for the immediate withdrawal of our British Troops from Palestine for debate on Thursday 22/1/48.

Petitions following from all over Scotland

Respectfully Yours

(Mrs) M. Brown

for the women of Clydebank

over.

Will you please give us
Mothers a little sympathy
& clear up Beirut
Sands out of Palestine now?

Eastern Dept

CMCA 30/ 176

116, Brompton Road,
BRADFORD.
January 29th., 1948.

Mr. Ernest Bevin,
Foreign Secretary,
Whitehall,
LONDON. S.W.1.

Dear Sir,

As an ordinary British citizen, and a supporter of the Government in many of it's moves, I should like to inquire how long it is going to be before our troops are entirely cleared out of Palestine.

I am by no means a Jew-baiter, but am of the very strong opinion that it is no part of the duty of British troops to be protecting Jews and Jewish property at the daily risk of their own lives, after so many of their comrades have been shot in the back by Jewish louts over the period of this last few years.

If the Government had any idea at all how the ordinary man in the street feels regarding this matter, I feel certain that there would be no dilly-dallying in with-drawing our boys on the pretexts of saving British property, arms, etc.

The most earnest desire of all of us is "Get a move on & get the boys out"!!!

Yours faithfully,
R. Bamforth.

(R. Bamforth).

AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF WOODWORKERS.

177

Whitcinch Branch No

21st January 1948.

1. Ack. 29.1.48.
2. Eastern Dept. FOR. 24/1

W. E. Bevin, Foreign Secretary,

Dear Sir,

I am instructed to forward to you, the following resolution. We, the members of this branch, ask for the withdrawal of British troops from Palestine.

I am,

Yours Fraternally,

Geo. H. Benson (Secy)

13 Medwyn St.,

Glasgow W.4.

DRAFT.

7 P — 91

In any further communication on this subject, please quote

No. E1347/1/31

178

FOREIGN OFFICE.

9th Feb 1948

and address—

not to any person by name

but to—

"The Under-Secretary of State,"
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of January 30

urging the immediate withdrawal of British soldiers from Palestine.

2. Mr. Bevin wishes me to inform you that, as has already been made clear in a number of official statements in the House of Commons, the policy of His Majesty's Government is to withdraw British troops from Palestine by the earliest practicable date and in any case by 1st August of this year.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

FCH. 6

Graham Graham Scott
11 Devonshire Place
Eastbourne.

DRAFT

179

In any further communication on this subject, please quote

No. E 1347/1/31

and address—

not to any person by name

but to—

"The Under-Secretary of State,"
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

FOREIGN OFFICE.
9 Feb 1948

Madam,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of January 20th urging the immediate withdrawal of British soldiers from Palestine.

2. Mr. Bevin wishes me to inform you that, as has already been made clear in a number of official statements in the House of Commons, the policy of His Majesty's Government is to withdraw British troops from Palestine by the earliest practicable date and in any case by 1st August of this year.

I am,

H.B. Feb. 6

Mrs. M. Broad
71, Clyde Street
Clydebank.

DRAFT

180

In any further communication on the subject, please quote

No. E1347/1/21

and address—

not to any person by name

but to—

"The Under-Secretary of State,"
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

FOREIGN OFFICE.
9 Feb 1948

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated January 29th urging the immediate withdrawal of British soldiers from Palestine.

2. Mr. Bevin wishes me to inform you that, as has already been made clear in a number of official statements in the House of Commons, the policy of His Majesty's Government is to withdraw British troops from Palestine by the earliest practicable date and in any case by 1st August of this year.

I am,

JB Feb 6

R. Bamforth Esq.
116 Brompton Road
Bradford

DRAFT

181

In any further communication on this subject, please quote

No. E1347/1/31

and address—

not to any person by name

but to—

"The Under-Secretary of State,"
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

FOREIGN OFFICE.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 20th ult. urging the immediate withdrawal of British soldiers from Palestine.

2. Mr. Bevin wishes me to inform you that, as has already been made clear in a number of official statements in the House of Commons, the policy of His Majesty's Government is to withdraw British troops from Palestine by the earliest practicable date and in any case by 1st August of this year.

I am,

JB Feb. 6

Geo. K. Renfrew,
Secretary
Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers
Whitevinch Branch
13, Aberdeen St
Glasgow. W.4.

182

Foreign Office,

E 1347/1/31

S.W.1.

9th February, 1948.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 21st January urging the immediate withdrawal of British soldiers from Palestine.

2. Mr. Bevin wishes me to inform you that, as has already been made clear in a number of official statements in the House of Commons, the policy of His Majesty's Government is to withdraw British troops from Palestine by the earliest practicable date and in any case by 1st August of this year.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

J. L. H. Pyman

G.K. Renfrew Esq.,
Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers,
Whiteinch Branch,
13, Medwyn Street,
Glasgow, W.4.

Eastern Dept.
CM/CA
17/1.

182

UNLESS SPECIALLY INSTRUCTED TO THE CONTRARY ALL QUOTATIONS GIVEN ARE WITHOUT ENGAGEMENT AND ORDERS RECEIVED ARE SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION BEFORE FORMING A BINDING CONTRACT.

GILBERT SCHOFIELD,

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS
"ANIMO," MANCHESTER
TELEPHONE BLACKFRIARS 7737

CODES
A.B.C. 5TH AND 6TH EDITIONS
BENTLEY'S COMPLETE
BENTLEY'S SECOND
PRIVATE

306, DEANSGATE,
MANCHESTER, 3

25 FEB 1948

Jan. 15th 1948.

GS/BS.

The Rt. Hon. Ernest Bevin, M.P.,
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,
Foreign Office,
Downing Street,
LONDON, S.W.1.

Sir,

I write to protest against the continued loss of life of British soldiers and police in Palestine in a futile attempt to maintain order when both Jews and Arabs are intent on disorder. Every day there is news of soldiers or police having lost their lives.

The people of this country are unwilling that their sons should be needlessly sacrificed. I enclose a cutting from the Manchester Evening News of the 9th instant, showing letters written to the Editor of that newspaper on this subject.

It is ironical that a Party which was placed in Government on the plea that it had the interest of the masses at heart, should allow its nationals to be sacrificed in this manner, many of these nationals being conscripts who have been directed into the forces under the Government's own Military Service Acts, and for whom the Government ought to consider that it has a responsibility.

It is also deplorable that we should have lost the good-will of the Arabs, who prior to partition acted with restraint and who were friendly towards Britain. I have seen letters from soldiers serving in Palestine in which they state that the change in the attitude of the Arabs towards them, since partition was decided upon, is amazing.

I write to press for the immediate withdrawal of our troops from Palestine and to express the devout wish that the Commission appointed by U.N.O. for carrying out partition will be informed that none of our troops will be at their disposal for that purpose.

Yours faithfully,
Gilbert Schofield

ACKNOWLEDGED 12-12-47
2. Basting Dept.
PBK. 19/12

42, Ridgeway.
Northampton.
Dec. 16th 1947.

184

1347 / 21

The Rt. Hon. Ernest Bevin -

Dear Sir -

I am just a mother with an only child now serving with the 3rd Batt. Scots Guards in Palestine, he has been there two years & three months, and is only twenty now, I have had this time of constant anxiety, he has as you well know, been along with many other Boys in the Middle East there, & I feel if something will done quickly they will be in a lot more trouble, I now come to my object in writing you, do please get them away as soon as possible never mind about the Ships etc, we have our Boys, please think of our Boys.

I wrote to the War Office a few weeks ago asking if he could come home & he returned in England the reason, my being alone in England being an only child myself I have no near relations,

my Husband is abroad, & I am at the moment unable to join him, of course they refused this request, so now I beg of you to do your very best & get the boys out of that unhappy land, I am so afraid it will mean another Dunkirk, I realize it's a very difficult position out there, but I feel sure you will do your best, I do so admire you in the way you deal with Russia, you must have had many headaches these last few years.

Please forgive my presumption in writing you but I feel sure you will understand how I am feeling.

Thanking you so much,

Remain,

Yours faithfully,

Hilda Shrigley..

my Husband is abroad, & I am at the moment unable to join him, of course they refused this request, so now I beg of you to do your very best & get the boys out of that unhappy land, I am so afraid it will mean another Dunkirk, I realize it's a very difficult position out there, but I feel sure you will do your best, I do so admire you in the way you dealt with Russia, You must have had many headaches there last few years.

Please forgive my presumption in writing you, but I feel sure you will understand this I am feeling.

Thanking you so much,

Remain,

Yours faithfully,

Hilda Shrigley..

186

In any further communication on this subject, please quote

No. E1347/1/31

and address—

not to any person by name

but to—

"The Under-Secretary of State,"
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

FOREIGN OFFICE.

10 Feb 1948

Sir

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter GS/85 dated Jan 15th urging the immediate withdrawal of British soldiers from Palestine.

2. Mr. Bevin wishes me to inform you that, as has already been made clear in a number of official statements in the House of Commons, the policy of His Majesty's Government is to withdraw British troops from Palestine by the earliest practicable date and in any case by 1st August of this year.

I am,

HB Feb. 10

Gilbert Schofield,
306, Deansgate
Manchester. 3.

DRAFT

FILE 187

Any further communication on this subject, please quote

No. E 1347/1/31

and address—

not to any person by name

but to—

"The Under-Secretary of State,"
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

FOREIGN OFFICE.

10 Feb 1948

Madam

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated Dec 16.

urging the immediate withdrawal of British soldiers from Palestine.

2. Mr. Bevin wishes me to inform you that, as has already been made clear in a number of official statements in the House of Commons, the policy of his Majesty's Government is to withdraw British troops from Palestine by the earliest practicable date and in any case by 1st August of this year.

I am,

HB Fch 10

Hilda Shrigley
42, Ridgeway
Northampton

1347/1/31.

188

. .1

10th February, 1948.

Madam,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 16th December urging the immediate withdrawal of British soldiers from Palestine.

2. Mr. Bevin wishes me to inform you that, as has already been made clear in a number of official statements in the House of Commons, the policy of His Majesty's Government is to withdraw British troops from Palestine by the earliest practicable date and in any case by 1st August of this year.

I am,
Madam,
Your obedient Servant.

BAB Burrows

Mrs Hilda Shrigley,
42, Ridgeway,
Northampton.

189

F 1347/1/31

P.Y.1

10th February, 1948.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter GS/BK dated 15th January urging the immediate withdrawal of British soldiers from Palestine.

2. Mr. Bevin wishes me to inform you that, as has already been made clear in a number of official statements in the House of Commons, the policy of His Majesty's Government is to withdraw British troops from Palestine by the earliest practicable date and in any case by 1st August of this year.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant.

for B H B Burrows

Gilbert Schofield, Esq.,
306, Deansgate,
Manchester. 3.

February 13th 48 11 Devonshire Place 190
Eastbourne

To the Right Hon: Ernest Bevin. M.P
Minister for Foreign affairs

E
147 / 1 / 31

Dear Sir, Thank you for your letter of Feb 9

I note that you mention Aug 1st as the latest date for our troops' exit from Palestine; that is in nearly 6 months, quite time enough for the murder of several of our splendid & valuable men, what I want to see is a complete withdrawal now at once! The Government have several times said they should be withdrawn, but have not kept their word

not only, are the Jews doing it, but the Arabs
also, with whom we have been friendly
in the past.-

It is not, like open warfare, but these
poor dear chaps are at the mercy of a number
of gangsters who, as assassinate them, when
they are trying to keep the peace!

I implore you to use your great-
influence as Foreign Minister & put them, away, as soon
as you possibly can i.e. at once

2 British soldiers were killed yesterday in Palestine!

Yours with much gratitude
J. Graham Scott MRCS Eng

UNLESS SPECIALLY INSTRUCTED TO THE CONTRARY ALL QUOTATIONS GIVEN ARE WITHOUT ENGAGEMENT AND ORDERS RECEIVED ARE SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION BEFORE FORMING A BINDING CONTRACT.

191

GILBERT SCHOFIELD.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS
"ANIMO," MANCHESTER
TELEPHONE BLACKFRIARS 7737

CODES
A.B.C. 5TH AND 6TH EDITIONS
BENTLEY'S COMPLETE
BENTLEY'S SECOND
PRIVATE

306. DEANSGATE.
MANCHESTER. 3

Feb. 25th 1948.

GS/BS.

"The Under-Secretary of State",
Foreign Office,
LONDON, S.W.1.

Your Ref: E 1347/1/31

Sir,

On February 10th, you kindly replied to a letter of mine, addressed to Mr. Ernest Bevin, suggesting the earliest possible withdrawal of our troops from Palestine.

It is with pleasure that I observe this morning, the firm attitude which Mr. Creech Jones is maintaining before the United Nations Organization in this respect and I am sure I am voicing the opinion of the vast majority of the residents in these islands when I express my thanks.

I trust that this firm attitude with regard to the early withdrawal of troops from Palestine will be maintained by this Government to the end, for an attempt is apparently being made by other Member countries of U.N.O. and particularly the U. S. A., to persuade the Government todelay the laying down of the Mandate until July 15th. As U.N.O., in spite of the repeated warnings of this Government, has thought fit to do nothing at all during the past 4 months, such a request is unjustified. Furthermore, any acquiescence in this proposal would only encourage the United Nations Organization in further procrastination with later requests for still further delay in laying down the Mandate and withdrawing our troops from Palestine.

I should like to point out the possibility of heavy casualties to our troops in withdrawing from Palestine the Army stores etc., now lying there. I believe it to be highly improbable that all these stores will ever be withdrawn because of the heavy loss of life they will incur. To both Arabs and Jews, these stores constitute a valuable prize and, in the present state of mind of both parties towards Britain, both Arabs and Jews will not hesitate to attack any convoy which might present an opportunity.

May I suggest that the question of destroying and jettisoning these stores at once might receive the careful

P.T.O.

consideration of H.M. Government in order to prevent any further needless loss of life of our troops.

I remain, Sir,
Yours respectfully,
Gilbert Sekapcheva

TELEPHONE: FISHPONDS 53634

34 CLEEVE WOOD ROAD.
DOWNEND,
NR. BRISTOL.

192 E

1 ALK 23.2.48.
2 Registry 28-2-48.

Dear Mr Bevin,

According to todays news Mr Truman is going to beg you to keep British Troops in Palestine after the Mandate is handed over.

May I remind you that we relatives of the Palestine Forces expect our men out not in August or later, but now while they can get out. We hold you entirely responsible for their safety and every letter we receive from our sons adds heavily to our anxiety.

Mr Truman wrecked your plans and forced partition on U.N.O. so it is only fair that G. I's should do the dying for carrying out that

policy and not the everlasting British soldier.

You all keep moaning of shortage of money, well you can save a workable amount in that way.

I am.

Yours expectantly,

(Mrs) F. M. Harries.

193

E 1347/1/31

S.W.1.

27th February, 1948

Madam,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 28th February urging the immediate withdrawal of British soldiers from Palestine.

2. Mr. Bevin wishes me to inform you that, as has already been made clear in a number of official statements in the House of Commons, the policy of His Majesty's Government is to withdraw British troops from Palestine by the earliest practicable date and in any case by the 1st August of this year.

I am,
Madam,
Your obedient Servant,

Mrs. N.M. Harries,
34, Clevewood Road,
Downend,
Near Bristol.

DRAFT

194

In any further communication on this subject, please quote

E 2267/1/31

and address—

not to any person by name

but to—

"The Under-Secretary of State,"
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

FOREIGN OFFICE.

27 Feb 1948

Madam,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated February 18

urging the immediate withdrawal of British soldiers from Palestine.

2. Mr. Bevin wishes me to inform you that, as has already been made clear in a number of official statements in the House of Commons, the policy of His Majesty's Government is to withdraw British troops from Palestine by the earliest practicable date and in any case by 1st August of this year.

I am,

JBRch 25

25/2

28/2

E 195

64 Welbeck Road
West Hartlepool
March 2nd

Reply

Mr. Ernest Bevin.

Dear Sir

Will you please have all our men brought home at once from Palestine. It is damnable that it is even contemplated to leave our 'boys' there like rats in a trap to be fully murdered. What chance of coming out alive have men whom you think to leave there after August?

I hear that 40 Labour M.P.'s have called on A. J. B. about "increased treachery of the peace in Palestine"

threatened breaches of the
Peace! when British men
Love, and are being daily
wounded and maimed: by this
is the level of the intelligence
of the Labour Government
Then God Help Britain!
Are these M.P.s then so Jew-
ridden, or is there so much
Jewish influence in this
Government, that British lives
just don't matter. It is a
great pity that some of the
Labour members do not get
to Government over the rights
of the British people as the
Jewish M.P.s. do over the Jews.
How can one help but hate
- loathe the Jews when they
treat our men so they do, & get
the Jews in this country
many killed - most of them

having made a very
comfortable life here, do not
try to help by publicly
condoning these terrible
deeds; and I am not
writing this because I am
pro-Jew, because I am not.
Sometime he was elected to
Parliament I wrote Mr. Bevin's
member for Uxbridge, that it was
his duty to urge that all
troops should be brought home
from Palestine and now now
in 1948 he cables about
threatened breaches of peace, after
all the lives that have been
lost in Palestine: My God
would I like to tell him
what I think of him, it
makes my blood boil.

Yours Mary Jessie Moir

Rec'd 2.3.48.

2. Eastern Dept.
PSK.
2/3

HOME FARM. 195
PRESTON CANDOVER.
BASINGSTOKE
Feb. 29. p.W.

Dear Sir

8 MAR 1948

We have just heard with horror of the slaughter of our British boys in Palestine.

We demand that all British soldiers be withdrawn AT ONCE. Let the nations who propose partition of Palestine control the country until final decisions are reached but spare our lads.

Yours truly.

Catherine Hackhaw

DRAFT

1949

In any further communication on this subject, please quote

No. E 1347/1/31

and address—

not to any person by name

but to—

"The Under-Secretary of State,"
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

FOREIGN OFFICE.

March 1948

Madam,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated March 2nd urging the immediate withdrawal of British soldiers from Palestine.

2. Mr. Bevin wishes me to inform you that, as has already been made clear in a number of official statements in the House of Commons, the policy of His Majesty's Government is to withdraw British troops from Palestine by the earliest practicable date and in any case by 1st August of this year.

I am,

Miss May W. James
64, Welbeck Road
West Hanow
Middx

E 1347/1/31

200

S.W.1

10th March, 1948.

Madam,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 2nd March urging the immediate withdrawal of British soldiers from Palestine.

2. Mr. Bevin wishes me to inform you that, as has already been made clear in a number of official statements in the House of Commons, the policy of His Majesty's Government is to withdraw British troops from Palestine by the earliest practicable date and in any case by 1st August of this year.

I am,
Madam,
Your obedient Servant.

A. B. B. Barnes

Miss May W. James,
64, Welbeck Road,
West Harrow,
Middlesex.

Monday Mr 1st 8 [illegible]

201

P.W.

[illegible] Hawthorn Rd
Hornsey N. 8. Middx

10 MAR 1948

Mr Bevin. — Sir

How much longer are you going to Condone this senceless slaughter of our Boys in Palestine. Little more than children. I have wrote before about this, I have also lost a friend. Mothers, Wifes & Widows will curse your name for the tradgery you are bringing into their lives. U N O. is about as effecient as a mustard plaster on a brick Wall. Face them with the fact that you intend to withdraw our men at once, then perhaps they will get a move on. I am furious & angry at seeing our Boy's cut off in the spring of their lives. Get them away at once & let thes damn fanatics fight their bellyful. I am boiling furious & am writing to Mr Gammans & the press. Note the enclosed leader & Stop this recruiting for both sides.

Also with the world in this unsettled state why are we scrapping valuable War ships, it don't make sence to me. Even if they are out dated, their are other uses they could be put to. Barracks for Sailors for instance If you don't get these men out, (or rather Boys) their will be a terriffic drop in the Labour Vote next Election

Yours Respectfully
Mr V. W. Gardiner

☎
No. 25881

410, East Park Road,
Leicester.

P.W.

1 3 48

Mr Bevin

Dear Sir 1347 1 31

I suggest that you withdraw our men from Palestine at once, & not wait until May

For those left behind I hope you will see that their widows are provided for

Yrs Faithfully
W Harris

DRAFT.

In any further communication on this subject, please quote

E1347/1/31

and address—

not to any person by name

but to—

"The Under-Secretary of State,"
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

FOREIGN OFFICE.

16 March 1948

203

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated March 1st urging the immediate withdrawal of British soldiers from Palestine.

2. Mr. Bevin wishes me to inform you that, as has already been made clear in a number of official statements in the House of Commons, the policy of His Majesty's Government is to withdraw British troops from Palestine by the earliest practicable date and in any case by 1st August of this year.

I am,

JB Mar 13

W. Harris Esq.
410, East Park Road.
Leicester.

204

E 1347/1/31.

FOREIGN OFFICE,
S.W.1.
16th March, 1948.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 1st March urging the immediate withdrawal of British soldiers from Palestine.

2. Mr. Bevin wishes me to inform you that, as has already been made clear in a number of official statements in the House of Commons, the policy of His Majesty's Government is to withdraw British troops from Palestine by the earliest practicable date and in any case by the 1st August of this year.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

H. B. L. B. Burrows

W. Harris, Esq.,
410, East Park Road,
Leicester.

205

HEREFORD (CITY) LABOUR PARTY

ACKNOWLEDGED
10 MAR 1948

19, Arran Avenue,
HEREFORD.
7. 3. 48.

Sir,

My Party are distressed at the waste of British man-power in Palestine, and Greece. Particularly at the loss of life in Palestine We join with all the fathers and mothers of the men now in Palestine in petitioning you to withdraw our troops, and let the American interests in the Oil resources of that area provide the Forces to police it.
Bring the British lads home at once, is the prayer, and demand of our people.

Yours faithfully,
C. J. Gooding
Hon. Secretary.

Rt. Hon. Ernest Bevin, M.P., P.C.,
H.M. Min. for Foreign Affairs,
LONDON.

MEMO. 1347 / 21 Light and Liberty

Branch: GLASGOW CENTRAL

Electrical Trades Union

PLEASE QUOTE IN REPLY

Your Ref. | SUBJECT: Palestine

Our Ref.

IMPORTANT. Please deal with one subject only.

Secretary's Address: J. H. SHORE, 55 DRUMSY CRESCENT, CLARKSTON, RENFREWSHIRE.

3 MAR 1948 194

Rt. Hon. E. Bevin M.P. Foreign Secy.

Sir.

We the members of the Glasgow Central Bch of the E.T.U. call upon the Government to make an immediate withdrawal from Palestine, and let U.N.O. or those who are doing the shooting settle the matter. We are not concerned in the Political or Creed factors. Our sole concern is for the safety and lives of our British brothers. They are mere Boys tangled in a web of racial and Government conflict.

These Boys are not at War, yet daily we hear of them being shot in the back or killed by underhand methods.

I need not go into the lurid details, these are well known by everyone. What are we doing for their safety and return. What state of mind must the relatives or dependants

85

MEMO.

Branch :

Light and Liberty

Electrical Trades Union

Secretary's Address :

PLEASE QUOTE IN REPLY

Your Ref.	SUBJECT
Our Ref.	

IMPORTANT.

Please deal with one subject only.

194

of these boys be us. The situation is disgusting and humiliating and the matter is urgent, and should be treated as such. We therefore demand immediate attention and the withdrawal of our men and us no uncertain manner..

Sam

Yours Fraternally

John. H. Shore

Bed Secy.

March Eastbourne 1947 [illegible] 21

To the Right Hon: E Bevin Minister of Foreign affairs

Dear Sir In spite of your splendid action in foreign matters in forming the western union, which you have brought about- as a check on Communism - would it not be possible for you to get our wonderfull, patient, but long suffering men away from Palestine at once, could you not urge the Welsh minister to order them home now. Killed I note that 6 more British soldiers have been by Arabs Surely they have no real case against Britain seeing that she is doing her level best to intervene

in their struggle with the Jews. The Ruler of Transjordan peopled by Arabs is a friend of this nation & would do more than he has done, in the past, to stop these assassinations, which are senseless & cause heartrending to all friends of the men (who are so badly handicapped). There was an officer badly wounded as well but - somewhat previously, the killing of the British - surely the O.C could investigate & give them a good lesson which will stop future action -

Yours faithfully
C Gorham Lt R

E 209

21 Grasmere Rd
March 23rd 1948 Harlescott
Shrewsbury

To Bevin.

Dear Sir"

will you
Please excuse the liberty I take in writing to you. It is to ask you if those responsible know what they are doing to the Mothers of this country by keeping our Boys in Palestine. They are just driving us out of our mind by the continual worry. We can't sleep we can't do anything in our Homes properly by night or day this dread

night & day hanging on
our minds. Why should
our Lads, be Killed defending
Jew & Arab. its not only
a disgrace its a Sin
many times going like
this. If it was in defending
our own country it would
be a different matter.
But its just murder.
Mr Bevin. I myself had
two children who risked our
lives during the war,
we were in the E.F.S. air raids
. I think we did our share all those
years, without the worry, of was
wondering if our "Dear Son is
Safe". Can you please help us
by getting them out of Palestine.
Yours Respectfully Margaret
Alexander

DRAFT

210

In any further communication on this subject, please quote

No. E1347/1/31

and address—

not to any person by name

but to—

"The Under-Secretary of State,"
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

FOREIGN OFFICE.

31/1

3 March 1948

X OC

Madam,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated March 23rd urging the immediate withdrawal of British soldiers from Palestine.

2. Mr. Bevin wishes me to inform you that, as has already been made clear in a number of official statements in the House of Commons, the policy of His Majesty's Government is to withdraw British troops from Palestine by the earliest practicable date and in any case by 1st August of this year.

I am,

HB mar. 25

Mrs. Margaret Alexander
21 Gratmere Road
Hanleroate
Shrewsbury.

211

1347/1/31.

FOREIGN OFFICE,
S.W.1.

31st March, 1948.

Madam,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 23rd March urging the immediate withdrawal of British soldiers from Palestine.

2. Mr. Bevin wishes me to inform you that, as has already been made clear in a number of official statements in the House of Commons, the policy of His Majesty's Government is to withdraw British troops from Palestine by the earliest practicable date and in any case by 1st August of this year.

I am,
Madam,
Your obedient Servant,

(Sd.) B. A. B. Burrows.

Mr. Alexander,
21, Grasmere Road,
Harlescote,
Shrewsbury.

212

To E Bevin Esqr
Right Hon Foreign Minister

March 27

11 Devonshire Place
Eastbourne

INDEXED

Dear Sir

I see you have been asked by America
the British
to prolong your stay in Palestine. 3147 (31)
This is to *implore* you not to do so.
The assassination of the young Gordon
Highlander a friend of my sons (who is
in the Black Watch) has decided me
in this appeal. Yours very Earnestly

[illegible] Graham Scott
MRCS late RAMC

Ack. 11 213

TEL.
WAN[illegible]AD 3687.

114 OVERTON DRIVE,
WANSTEAD, E. 11.

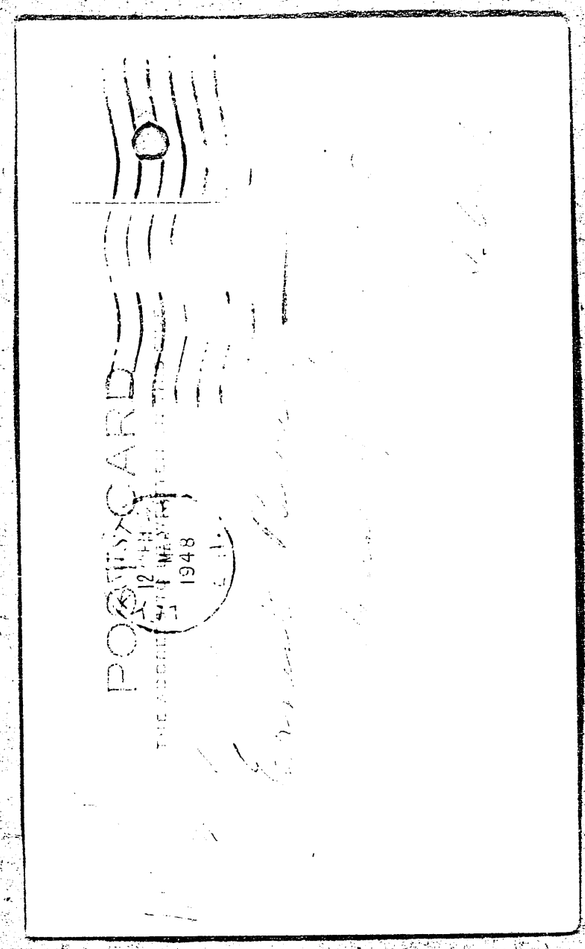
AB 9/3

1347 / 31   1. 3. 48

We support the Government in the ruling that British troops should quit Palestine in May – this step of evacuation carried on.

Yours [illegible]

R. Allen



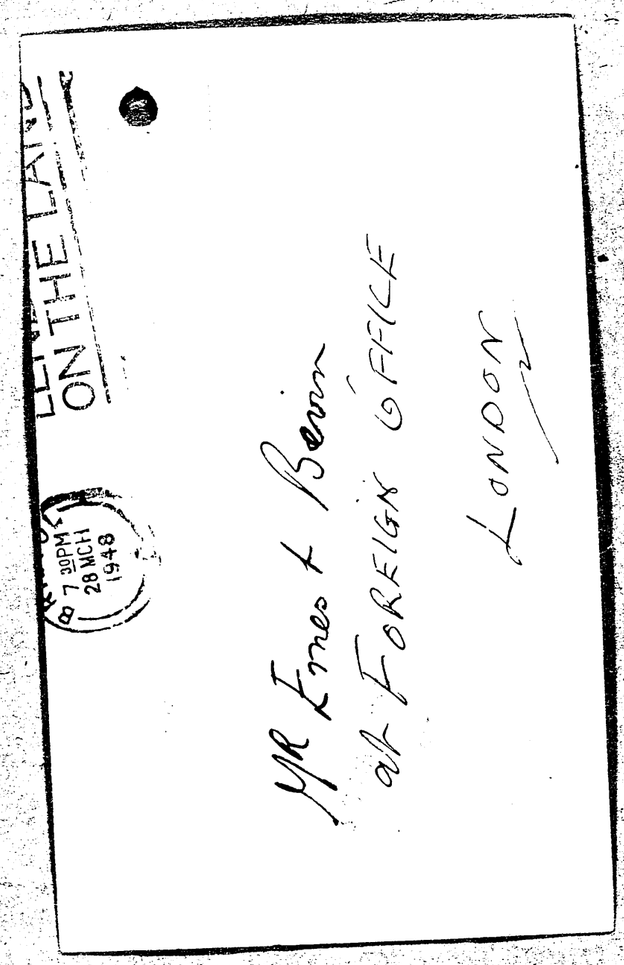
E
214

Portishead.
26/3/48

Dear Mr ~~Ern Ewing~~ Ern Bevin

Get out of Palestine as agreed on May 15th & let the blasted Yanks hold the baby.

Sincerely
(Mr & Mrs) Frank Hinton



Ernest Bevin. Esq. M.P.
The Foreign Office
Whitehall
London

Broad Oak. Rye
Sussex
24-3-48

215
E

Dear Mr Bevin

1547 / 1)

I wish, just an ordinary Briton, to express my very deep appreciation of the stand you are making with regard to Palestine of "Clearing out Bag and Baggage". from there: that no longer will the opportunity be given for the murder of our brave lads as has be the case ~~hitherto~~. Over this business, and in other directions, we have been made the "Scape goat". and "Plaything" to bolster up the very ~~shady~~ tactics of the U.S.A.

I have felt terribly uneasy, and depressed, in your seeming compliance therewith. in their operations.- It seemed so foreign to the spirit and actions of yourself, as I knew it when I backed you behind the scenes, among the "leading lights" of the City of London in your fight for Socialism as the "K.C." as the champion of their just claims.

I am fully convinced that the U.S.A. will never take on a task that will invite hardship, "Sweat, Blood, and Tears".

F.T.O

II

216

Yours

as long as they can so involve others to do it for them (as we have done in two terrible wars) and are working to get us into another, which, may God forbid, — will spell the ruin and destruction of our race — the finest on this earth.-

I have reason to write thus, in the knowledge of fourteen of my own "kith and kin" who lie dead in foreign lands, who died in the cause of freedom, and has left, me, a broken, physical wreck.

I believe in my Country, my Race, and our Empire. I owe allegiance to our King.- who is a good father, a good husband, and a true Englishman, of the characteristics of the British people.

I earnestly pray that you will so work, not as a "Catspaw", or as a horse to be held in with "Bit and Bridle" as was recently suggested by the Leader of the U.S.A Foreign Relations Committee, in referring to the prospective loan to Great Britain. "We do not feed a dead horse" which statement, suggests, that, we, feeding out of their hand, they have held over us

P.T.O

the "Whip-Hand" to do their bidding.
Your present declaration, may remove
some of the confidence of such an assumption
that they have but to say the word:
crack the whip, for us to obey.
Believe me. I have written in all
sincerity, and make bold to add, that,
any action opposing such purposes
will have the united support of every
true freedom-loving Briton, wherever
they may be found

Yours very faithfully

M. Lindsay

218

UNLESS SPECIALLY INSTRUCTED TO THE CONTRARY ALL QUOTATIONS GIVEN ARE WITHOUT ENGAGEMENT AND ORDERS RECEIVED ARE SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION BEFORE FORMING A BINDING CONTRACT.

1347 1 51E

GILBERT SCHOFIELD,

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS
"ANIMO," MANCHESTER
TELEPHONE BLACKFRIARS 7737

CODES
A.B.C. 5TH AND 6TH EDITIONS
BENTLEY'S COMPLETE
BENTLEY'S SECOND
PRIVATE

306, DEANSGATE,
MANCHESTER, 3

March 29th 1948.

The Rt. Hon. Ernest Bevin, Esquire,
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,
Foreign Office, Downing Street,
London, S. W. 1.

GS/BS.

Sir,

Palestine.

There are repeated reports in the newspapers to the effect that the United States of America may attempt or are attempting to enter into negotiations with Britain with the object of granting financial and political advantages to this country in consideration of our allowing British Troops to remain in Palestine after August 1st 1948.

It is to be hoped that any such negotiations, if attempted by the U.S.A., will not be considered by H.M.Government. You, yourself, were pleased to state in the House of Commons:-

> " The Government has not changed its policy, and it cannot change its policy because some other State makes a proposition. "

I am sure it is the devout wish of the vast majority of the people of this country that the policy, as declared by the Government, will be duly carried out. It would be pitiable indeed if aid under the Marshall Plan, or any other aid of a similar materialistic nature, had to be purchased with the blood of British soldiers, enough of which has already been spilt in Palestine.

Yours respectfully,

Gilbert Schofield

219 Rd L.W.
10 Errwood
Levenshulme
Manchester 19
Mar 28/48

Dear Sir Bevin

The persistent rumours that there is a possibility of our men remaining in Palestine after May 15th must fill thousands of people - including myself with horror.

Surely we have done much more than our share in a thankless task. No rewards, bribes

concessions or anything
else can possibly make up
for the lives of our boys
who are daily being
sacrificed there.

It would be a great
relief to us all if a
public announcement is
made that on no conditions
will we remain in
Palestine after the date
already planned.

Truly yours

Cr. Cooper

Draft

220

In any further communication on this subject, please quote No. E. 1847/1/31.

and address—
not to any person by name
but to—
"The Under-Secretary of State,"
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

FOREIGN OFFICE.
7 April. 48.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 28th March, '48, urging the immediate withdrawal of British soldiers from Palestine.

2. Mr. Bevin wishes me to inform you that, as has already been made clear in a number of official statements in the House of Commons, the policy of His Majesty's Government is to withdraw British troops from Palestine by the earliest practicable date and in any case by 1st August of this year.

I am, &c.

HB Apr. 2

M. Cooper, Esq.,
10, Errwood Rd.,
Levenshulme,
Manchester. 19.

221

E 1347/1/31.

FOREIGN OFFICE,

S.W.1.

9th April, 1948

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 28th March, 1948 urging the immediate withdrawal of British soldiers from Palestine.

2. Mr. Bevin wishes me to inform you that, as has already been made clear in a number of official statements in the House of Commons, the policy of His Majesty's Government is to withdraw British troops from Palestine by the earliest practicable date and in any case by 1st August of this year.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

ss. B.A.B. Burrows.

M. Cooper, Esq.,
10, Erwood Road,
Levenshulme,
Manchester, 19.

Draft.

222

In any further communication on this subject, please quote

No. E.1547/1/31.

and address—

not to any person by name

but to—

"The Under-Secretary of State,"
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

FOREIGN OFFICE.

7 April, '48.

Sir,

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2. Mr. Bevin wishes me to inform you that, as has already been made clear in a number of official statements in the House of Commons, the policy of His Majesty's Government is to withdraw British troops from Palestine by the earliest practicable date and in any case by 1st August of this year.

I am, etc.

HB Apr. 2

R. I. Grace Hall, Esq.,
Pembridge,
Leominster,
Herefordshire.

E 1347/1/31.

223

FOREIGN OFFICE,
S.W.1.

9th April, 1948

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 27th March, 1948, urging the immediate withdrawal of British soldiers from Palestine.

2. Mr. Bevin wishes me to inform you that, as has already been made clear in a number of official statements in the House of Commons, the policy of His Majesty's Government is to withdraw British troops from Palestine by the earliest practicable date and in any case by 1st August of this year.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

E. R. B. Bowker.

R.I. Bruce Hall, Esq.,
Pembridge,
Leominster,
Herefordshire.

P.10

1 Ack
2 Eastern Dept

ACKNOWLEDGED
25 MAR 1948

P.W. E
224

MK. 22/3

167 Bolingbroke Rd
Coventry.

Ernest Bevin Esqr

1347 / 21

20/3/48

Dear Sir

You gave August 1st for complete evacuation of Palestine, parents of boys there expect you to keep your word.

Now it is up to you to contradict or chastise Mr Rees Williams M/S Colonies who says, "some troops might remain".

Damn it, don't he realise thousands of these boys were evacuated when school children - are they to have no home life?

We look to you to see that regulars, conscripts & Stores are out lock, stock, & barrel by Aug 1st.

Your present admirer

Harry Etheridge

T & G.W. Union

2c

225 END.

p.w

ACKNOWLEDGED
29 MAR 1948

Pembridge.
Leominster.
Herefordshire.
27. III. 1948.

1147 / 71

INDEXED

To the Right Hon. Ernest Bevin, P.C. M.P.
The Foreign Office. S.W.1.

Sir,

We desire to inform you we are entirely opposed to any extension whatever of the British Mandate in Palestine. Should extension be the price of the Marshall plan, we will go without, thank you.

We write to you, because we regard you as a working man like ourselves, who knows it is hard enough to get a living without being shot up by a lot of damned Jews & Arabs. Too many of our precious young lives have been sacrificed in Palestine already.

If the United Nations cannot handle Palestine, why not hand the country back to the Turks? Undoubtedly then the problem will cease to exist while the Turks seem to us to have more right to the country than the Jews.

Yours obedient servants.

R W Grace Hall.
D Pett
A Hall
H. Leighton
J. J. Williams.
G. T. Chipkins
A Duggan
C. Breakwell.
J Edwards
A. J. Hopkins

A Hopkins
E Newman
Rd Jones
R. Jones
Layton
W. Jenkins.
J Newman
H. W. Elwell
E. J. Breakwell.
R. V. Hall.

N. Gardner.
J. Chandler
R.A.R. Jones.
J. Griffin
W. Vaughan.
C. H. Dench
John Rogers
K Newman.